

Iran cites danger of nuclear fallout

VIENNA (R) — Iran said Friday it had moved fissionable nuclear material to a nuclear power plant under construction at Bushehr and there was a danger of fallout if the plant was attacked by Iraq. Ali Asghar Soliman, Iran's representative at Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that the transfer took place this week. Soliman said there was a danger of nuclear fallout in the event of an attack, he called on the IAEA to condemn any threats to attack the plant. But Iraq's representative on the IAEA board of governors, Rahim Al Kital, said Iraq had never threatened to attack the Bushehr plant, which lies 60 kilometres from the Iran-Iraq border and is designed to have two 1,200 megawatt reactors. "Iraq has always stated its adherence to its commitment not to attack peaceful nuclear facilities, particularly those subject to the agency's safeguards," he told a separate news conference. "The issue raised by Iran is a war issue and has nothing to do with the agency," he said. "We have never attacked any nuclear plants in Iran."

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Saudis to lobby for Arab summit

JEDDAH (R) — High-level Saudi officials will visit several Arab countries, including Morocco, Algeria, Syria and Iraq, to set the stage for convening a Arab summit conference in Riyadh, the Arab News newspaper reported Friday. It quoted well-informed sources as saying the contacts would aim at fixing a date for the summit, which would be held as soon as a conducive atmosphere was created. The sources said a majority of Arab states attending the Islamic summit in Kuwait last month were in favour of holding a summit.

French UNIFIL soldier killed

TEL AVIV (R) — A French bomb disposal officer serving with U.N. peace-keeping forces in southern Lebanon was killed Friday while dismantling a roadside bomb, U.N. spokesman Timor Goksel said. He said the bomb was planted on a road used both by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) militia near the village of Sribbine, north-west of Bint Jbeil. "We have strong reasons to believe it was aimed at the SLA, not UNIFIL," Goksel said.

Berri: Waite will be freed

ROME (R) — Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri said Friday he was sure missing Anglican church envoy Terry Waite would be released but it could take weeks or months. In an interview with Italian Television, the chief of the Amal movement said he was sure Mr. Waite would be freed "soon. But by this I don't mean in the space of 24 hours. It will more likely be weeks or months, but he will be freed."

Vatican gets PLO message

ROME (R) — The head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) political department, Farouk Kaddumi, delivered a personal message from the movement's leader, Yasser Arafat, to Pope John Paul II's "foreign minister" on Thursday, Vatican officials said. Mr. Kaddumi, ending a two-day visit to Italy, had a private meeting with Monsignor Achille Silvestrini, secretary of the council for the public affairs of the church, at which the verbal message was delivered, they said. Mr. Kaddumi earlier had separate talks on the Middle East with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti.

Kemp demands Shultz' resignation

WASHINGTON (R) — Republican presidential hopeful Jack Kemp on Friday demanded the resignation of Secretary of State George Shultz, saying he had undermined President Reagan's foreign policy goals. Mr. Kemp, a conservative New York congressman, accused Mr. Shultz' State Department of abandoning anti-Communist rebels in Nicaragua and of neglecting so-called "freedom fighters" in Angola and Afghanistan. "Let's face it. The Shultz doctrine is not the same thing as the Reagan doctrine," Mr. Kemp told the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC).

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Amal and leftist alliance ignore truce; thousands trapped in west Beirut

Militia leaders and politicians gather in Damascus

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Leftist and Shi'ite Muslim militias skirmished across west Beirut on Friday straining a Syrian-brokered ceasefire. Thousands of civilians trapped by the fighting appealed for help and talks began in Damascus to find an end to the fighting.

The Syrian-backed mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia and an alliance of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and the Lebanese Communist Party have been fighting for control of west Beirut for six days.

Police said more than 200 people have been killed, 400 wounded and scores of buildings gutted in the worst factional fighting in west Beirut in three years.

Police said heavy sniping and rocket-propelled grenade blasts kept weary inhabitants huddled in basements and bomb shelters with supplies of food and drinking water running out.

Radio stations broadcast telephone appeals from civilians in bomb shelters pleading with the warring factions to bring the hostilities to an end.

"I beg you to have mercy on our children who haven't seen sunlight for six days. We have been living in dark and cold basements for a week," an unnamed mother, who said she

lived in the Karakol district, told Voice of the Nation by telephone.

Fighting in that district and in several other west Beirut neighbourhoods has not stopped despite the Syrian-brokered truce.

Two leaders of the leftist alliance in the battles, PSP leader Walid Junblatt and Communist Party Secretary-General Georges Hawi, arrived in Damascus Thursday night amid indirect warnings that Syria might send in troops to end the struggle.

The leftists had no immediate meeting with Nabih Berri, leader of Amal, which lost control of some west Beirut areas but defended its main strongholds from leftist assaults.

Mr. Junblatt held a short meeting with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, but declined to talk to reporters.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Education Minister Selim Hoss, both politicians with a traditional consti-

tency in west Beirut, arrived in Damascus Friday.

Lebanon's pro-Syrian Baath Party chief Assem Kanso said in Damascus on Thursday Syrian troops were awaiting an official green light from Mr. Karami and Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini before they would intervene.

Residents reported clashes with machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades around Mr. Junblatt's west Beirut home, and the Mazraa, Tariq Al Jideb and Arab University districts.

Rooftop snipers made movement dangerous in many areas and the echo of explosions and gunfire persuaded civilians to abandon the streets to fighters again by midday.

A unit of Syrian troops kept the peace around the 40-storey Murr Tower, Beirut's tallest building and an Amal stronghold, as leftist militiamen around it rested up, oiled their weapons and fortified barricades with sandbags and barrels.

Syria's state-run media kept up its silence on the battles, which have pitted two of its chief Lebanese allies against each other.

Analysts said the chances of Syrian military intervention were growing. Mr. Kanso told reporters Thursday: "There are Syrian troops in the mountains (near Beirut) ready for intervention."

Shamir leaves Washington in defiant mood

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir left Washington for Los Angeles on Friday after a three-day visit in which he appeared to rebuff U.S. pleas for flexibility on most of the major topics discussed.

U.S. officials asked him to consider an international peace conference, begging their proposal with assurances it would have to lead straight to direct Arab-Israeli peace talks and that Moscow would have no substantial role.

Mr. Shamir rejected the idea, as he did a U.S. request to ease Israeli opposition to U.S. arms sales to Arab states.

He reserved a decision on ditching Israel's Lavi warplane, which U.S. officials say is un-

acceptably expensive.

He agreed to full cooperation in U.S. probes into the Iran arms scandal, but stuck to his original insistence that Israeli officials could be questioned only in writing, not in person as congressional committees had asked.

An international conference was Washington's latest hope of getting stalled Middle East peace talks moving again.

But Mr. Shamir rejected the idea from the start of his visit. He argued on Thursday in an address to the National Press Club that the Arabs would have to enter direct talks.

"Sooner or later we shall have to meet to discuss ways to convert the current de facto peaceful relationship between us into a de jure peace," he said.

International aid offered to Lebanon camps

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Community (EC), France, Italy and China have joined other world nations in offering aid to Palestinian refugees in Lebanon's camps which had been under siege by the Shi'ite Amal militia for the past 16 weeks.

The Red Cross society of China Friday donated \$50,000 to Palestinian refugees for purchasing food, clothes and other necessities, the official Xinhua News Agency reported from Peking.

The Italian government has allocated the sum of 10 billion Italian lire (approximately \$8 million) to supply food and medicines that will be distributed in the Palestinian camps.

The European Community (EC) Commission said Thursday it has granted 400,000 European currency units (ECUs) (\$452,000) in emergency medical aid for victims of the civil war in Lebanon.

France said it was allocating 12 million French francs and 12 tonnes of foodstuffs and medicines to the inhabitants of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, according to the French Foreign Ministry.

The aid, which came upon the instructions of French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, has been put at the disposal of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), a press release said.

Shultz: U.S.-Israel differences 'exaggerated'

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Asserting that U.S. and Israeli "differences of view" over a possible international conference on the Middle East have been "exaggerated," Secretary of State George Shultz said Thursday both governments fully agree on the need for direct negotiations if peace is to be achieved.

His comments came in response to questions during testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

"The differences of view, I think, were exaggerated," Shultz said when asked about comments by Amal and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir made earlier this week when both were asked about an international conference on the Middle East.

"As both Prime Minister Shamir and I put it, the name of the game is direct negotiations," Mr. Shultz declared. "We agree on that. That's the only way in which the problems can be resolved."

He said both the United States and Israel oppose "the idea of calling some sort of international conference" such as one with all the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and others as participants "that would aspire to sit down and talk about how to solve the problems of the region and come to a conclusion and tell the parties what to do."

"That won't work," Mr. Shultz said. "And we oppose it. They oppose it. That's not what anybody has in mind."

The secretary pointed to the Egyptian-Israeli peace negotia-

tions as "the way to resolve the problems" by sitting down together and negotiating directly, with U.S. participation if that is desired.

"How do you get to direct negotiations?" he asked rhetorically. "It's not easy." At present the focus is on Jordan, he pointed out, adding that it's written into the Camp David accords, and everyone recognises that "Jordan has to have with it Palestinian representation that's genuine."

"King Hussein has the view that he has to proceed in a negotiation in accord with something that gives international legitimacy to what he does," the secretary explained. Both Jordan and the United States refer to U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 in this search.

"(Jordan) feels that (it) needs some sort of an international umbrella under which to operate," Mr. Shultz said. "All we have said is that if we can find some device that has the label 'international conference' on it, through which we can pass, that will for sure get us to direct negotiations — which is what we want — then we ought to be willing to consider that and work at that problem."

In an effort to "put a boundary" around the problem, Mr. Shultz said Mr. Shamir has publicly said that he would support the idea of a conference consisting of Egypt, Jordan, Israel, some Palestinians and the United States.

Arabs clash with Israelis in Golan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Hundreds of Arabs chanting anti-Israel slogans threw stones Friday at Israeli police and border patrols in two villages in the occupied Golan Heights.

Israeli police said about 400 Arabs from the predominantly Druze village of Masada threw rocks at Israeli police when they tried to detain two villagers in connection with the beating Thursday of a Druze sanitation worker connected with the Israeli occupation authorities.

Several dozen Druze also demonstrated in the nearby village of Majd Al Shams, police said. Police dispersed the demonstrators and there were no reported injuries or arrests.

The clash on Friday followed violent demonstrations in the two villages last Saturday to protest the fifth anniversary of the 1981 annexation of the Golan Heights. Nine Israeli police were injured in the violence and the village of Majd Al Shams was put under a 24-hour curfew.

Elsewhere in the occupied territories, Israeli troops shot and wounded three Palestinians including a 10-year-old boy in clashes that spread through a dozen cities and refugee camps on Thursday.

Two Israelis were also slightly wounded by rocks and an 18-year-old Arab girl was clubbed in the head by a soldier, reports

said.

It was the 11th straight day of violence in the occupied territories.

One Palestinian has been killed and 22 wounded, and four Israeli soldiers have been hurt in the violence since Feb. 9.

The worst clash was in the occupied Gaza Strip where an army officer opened fire on a crowd of Palestinians who stoned a military patrol. Two protesters were wounded, an army spokesman said.

Two Israelis were hit by rocks while driving in and near the city of Ramallah. Palestinian sources identified two of the wounded youths as Akram Salim Sbat, 10, who suffered a bullet wound in the left leg, and Salman Abdullah Hassini, 18, who was hit by three bullets in the knee and leg. A soldier also struck a woman protester with a club, the sources said.

In the Gaza City of Rafiah, crack border patrol guards opened fire to disperse protesters, wounding one of them in the leg, said an army spokesman.

Soldiers fired tear gas at 60 stone-throwing protesters at the Askar refugee camp near the city of Nabulus and then clamped a 12-hour curfew on the camp.

U.N. commission condemns Israel, page 2

Nominations close for JBA election; 3 vie for presidency

By Abdullah Nsour
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three lawyers will be competing in the forthcoming elections for the presidency of the Jordan Bar Association (JBA). It was announced Friday.

The present president of the association Hussein Mjalli, Mr. Nabih Haddadin and Mr. Omar Abu Al Ragheb are running for the two-year presidency seat and 27 other lawyers are running to fill the ten seats for the association's council.

The association's 1,277-member general council is expected to hold its first regular meeting on March 6, in accordance with the association's laws.

The 27 lawyers competing for the ten council seats are Foad Saudi, Tayseer Hawamdeh, Zubair Abu Al Ragheb, Ali Barakat, Mohammad Shams Za'tari, Ahmad Abu Saman, Asma Khadr, Taher Al Amir, Zahi Shalabi, Mifteh Mubideen, Ahmad Abu Arqoub, Kamal Nasser, Zuhdi Al Dissy, Salem Al Ma'aytah, Salim Zo'bi, Munwer Rimawi, Abdul Fattah Nsour, Aisha Al Faraj, Omar Dhamra, Marwan Hussein, Sameer Khalfa, Sa'adi Abdeen, Mohammad Qataneb, Ali Dmour, Saleh Abu Eideb, Mohammad Rasbдан, Walid Al Assali and Zaher Jardaneh.

Asma Khadr and Aisha Faraj are the only two female lawyers running for council seats.

During Mr. Velayati's visit, Soviet President Andrei Gromy-

Unofficial truce halts 'war of cities'

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — An unofficial truce in air, missile and artillery attacks in Iran and Iraq's so-called "war of the cities" has gone into effect, granting respite to civilians thrust into the front line of the Gulf war.

The initiative came from Iraq which said on Thursday it was stopping air raids on Iranian towns and cities for two weeks. Iran, while describing the move as a trick, said Thursday it would suspend reprisal bombardments of Iraqi cities.

Both sides said they would resume attacks on targets in civilian centres if their cities were bombed again.

Thousands of Iranians have been killed this year since the Iraqi air force, which has general air superiority, launched a sus-

Princess Anne and Philip visit Petra

AMMAN (J.T.) — Britain's Princess Anne and her husband Mark Philip toured the ancient city of Petra on Friday.

Princess Anne, daughter of Queen Elizabeth II, arrived in Aqaba on Thursday on the last leg of a Middle East visit which took her to the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Kuwait.

Princess Anne and Mark Philip are the guests of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor. Mark Philip arrived here on Tuesday.

Princess Anne's tour of the Gulf aimed at promoting the work of the Save the Children Fund, reports said.

Princess Anne and Mark Philip leave Jordan on Saturday, a Royal Palace spokesman said.



Princess Anne

Masri meets Tindemans

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri on Friday held talks with Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans, a Belgian Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said the talks were restricted to ministers and declined to detail the contents of the meeting.

Belgium, which currently holds the European Community's (EC) rotating presidency, is holding a series of talks ahead of a meeting here on Monday of EC ministers who are due to discuss the Middle East.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Thursday that Mr. Masri would also meet with other Belgian and EC officials during his stay in Belgium.

The agency noted that Mr. Masri's visit came in advance of the EC foreign ministers' meeting which is expected to come up with a new formula for EC approach towards the Middle East conflict and a joint stand on efforts towards settling the Palestinian problem.

In their last meeting in London, the EC ministers agreed to debate the issue in Brussels.

Khatib visits Iraqi front

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib, who is now on a visit to Iraq, visited the Iraqi warfront on Friday, The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Mr. Khatib was briefed by Iraqi officers on the situation in the warfront and the latest developments in the six-and-a-half-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

The minister was accompanied on the visit by officials from the Iraqi Ministry of Information, members of a Jordanian delegation which includes Department of Culture and Arts Director Haidar Mahmoud, Jordan Radio Director Issam Arida and Petra Director General Ali Al Safadi.

Petra quoted Mr. Khatib as praising Iraq's courageous stand in the face of the Iranian aggression and expressing Jordan's confidence that Iraq would emerge victorious in the war.

During a meeting on Thursday with Iraqi Information Minister Latif Jassem, Mr. Khatib reiterated His Majesty King Hussein's and Jordan's support for Iraq and said "the Iranian threats were aimed at the whole of the Arab Umma, including Iraq."

Mr. Khatib told his Iraqi counterpart that the Iran-Iraq war had been and was one of the prime concerns of the King during his discussions with Western and Arab leaders.

Acting upon directives by King Hussein, Mr. Khatib said that the Jordanian media were "reflecting Iraq's steadfastness in this fierce war."

On his country's behalf, Mr. Latif commended Jordan's stand vis-a-vis Iraq and said Baghdad was defending the 'Arab Umma' and the Arab banner.

He expressed confidence in Iraq's ultimate victory in its struggle against the Iranians.

Shevardnadze and Iraqi foreign minister open talks

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Iraqi counterpart Tariq Aziz on Friday began talks expected to focus on the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

The official news agency TASS, which reported Mr. Aziz's arrival in Moscow Thursday night, gave no details of the discussions.

But diplomats said Mr. Aziz would be seeking an update of the Soviet position on the Gulf war following a visit to Moscow last week by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

The Soviet Union, although officially neutral in the war, is Iraq's major arms supplier and the Kremlin has made clear it differs with Iran on the conflict, now in its seventh year.

During Mr. Velayati's visit, Soviet President Andrei Gromy-

ko said Moscow wanted the war ended as soon as possible and added bluntly that the two countries' views on this did not coincide.

Diplomats said the Iraqis saw a statement on the Gulf war issued by Moscow last month as a tilt towards their position in favour of negotiations to end the conflict.

On his way to Moscow on Thursday, Mr. Aziz paid a brief visit to Jordan and was received by His Majesty King Hussein to whom he delivered a verbal message from President Hussein.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the message dealt with current Arab affairs and bilateral ties.

The King's meeting with Mr. Aziz was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

SLA said proposing prisoner swap

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese radio stations said Friday the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) chief, Brigadier Antoine Lahd, had proposed exchanging some 300 Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel for several Israelis captured in Lebanon.

Brig. Lahd's SLA operates with Israeli troops in a strip of Lebanon north of the Israeli border.

Israeli leaders say that about 300 prisoners are held in the Kham detention centre in the strip, while independent sources say as many as 500 may be in the jail.

The Voice of the Mountain Radio and rightist radio stations said Brig. Lahd was interested in

a prisoner swap along the lines proposed by Shi'ite Muslim Amal leader Nabih Berri and including "Israelis held by Amal and Hizbollah."

Israel has said it believes two of its soldiers missing in Lebanon are held by Hizbollah (Party of God).

Mr. Berri's proposal differed with Brig. Lahd's in that he wanted to swap 400 Arab prisoners held by Israel for one Israeli airman captured by his militia in October.

The swap was conditional on the prior release by a clandestine group of four foreign academics, including three Americans, kidnapped in Beirut on Jan. 24.

Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, which holds the

four, had demanded the release of 400 prisoners by Israel.

The group indefinitely suspended a threat to kill the four when 400 prisoners were not released by the deadline on Feb. 2, but gave no indication of whether or not it was going along with Mr. Berri's conditions.

"It has first to be ascertained whether Berri can carry out his pledge," the radios quoted Brig. Lahd as saying, in what was possibly a reference to release of the four academics.

The four — Robert Polhill, Alann Steen, Jesse Turner and Indian Mithleshwar Singh — are among 26 foreigners missing, believed kidnapped in Lebanon, not including missing British church envoy Terry Waite.



THE MOST SHINING STAR

McFarlane tells of bid to hide Reagan role in Iran arms deal

WASHINGTON (R) — Damaging new reports on the extent of President Reagan's involvement in the Iran arms scandal have surfaced as a presidential panel investigating the affair prepares to issue its findings next week.

The New York Times reported Friday that former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane Thursday told the panel, headed by former Republican Senator John Tower, that he helped to conceal Mr. Reagan's role.

And the Washington Post said two messages found in computer files showed fired National Security Council (NSC) aide Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North had given Iran U.S. intelligence information.

It quoted unidentified sources as saying the messages were designated "noform," meaning they

were not to be seen by foreigners. The Washington Post said it was not clear what the intelligence was but it quoted one source as saying it would have helped Iran in its war against Iraq.

The New York Times said a key part of the plan to conceal the president's role included a memo which Mr. McFarlane said he wrote last November indicating how Mr. Reagan could deny he had given prior approval for arms shipments to Iran.

It quoted a source familiar with the Tower probe as saying the point of the memo "was to permit

the president to say no, he didn't give a formal authorization."

But the source said Mr. McFarlane knew at the time Mr. Reagan had privately and informally endorsed the sales to Iran before they took place.

Mr. McFarlane gave evidence to the Tower Commission in hospital where he is recovering from a suicide attempt.

The McFarlane testimony would contradict Donald Reagan, the president's chief of staff, who has said Mr. Reagan approved the sales only after Israel made the first shipment to Tehran.

According to the New York Times, Mr. McFarlane wrote the memo on Nov. 18 at the request of Vice-Admiral John Poindexter, his successor as national security adviser.

This was just before a Nov. 19 presidential news conference, the

source said, when the atmosphere at the White House was one of "save the president."

"Operationally, the plan was to keep this thing aloft by keeping the president at some distance," the New York Times quoted the source as saying.

The Tower panel, appointed by Mr. Reagan to investigate the worst scandal of his presidency, has six days to complete the inquiry that has become broader and potentially more damaging than seemed likely when it was appointed last November.

"We do plan on being on time, so we're busy," spokesman Ray Kempisty told Reuters when asked if the investigative team would meet a Feb. 26 deadline for submitting its report.

He said the questioning of Mr. McFarlane was the panel's last interview.

Torricelli: U.S. arms helped Iran in Gulf war

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. congressman just back from Iraq has said he saw evidence that the U.S. arms sold covertly to Iran had allowed Tehran to make significant gains in the Gulf war.

Congressman Robert Torricelli, an opposition Democrat, also disputed a statement by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger that U.S. anti-tank weapons sold to Iran were obsolete and that only parts for Hawk anti-aircraft missiles were supplied.

Mr. Torricelli's charges were made during three hours of testimony from Secretary of State George Shultz at a House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on foreign aid.

Mr. Shultz had no response to Mr. Torricelli's charges but he denied another, from Congressman Ted Weiss, that the United States had deliberately provided false or misleading intelligence information to both Iran and Iraq, arch enemies in the war that began in 1980.

"It is my information that there has been no instance of sharing intelligence that was deliberately deceptive," Mr. Shultz said. Mr. Weinberger acknowledged Wednesday that Washington had supplied intelligence to both Iran and Iraq.

Mr. Shultz admitted that in a

routine intelligence-sharing agreement with another country, as apparently was the case with Iraq, "we could not look at every piece that is shared."

The Reagan administration, embroiled in the Iran arms scandal, has come under fire for covertly selling arms to Iran while at the same time supplying intelligence information regularly to Iraq and, as part of the arms deals, also to Iran in limited instances.

Mr. Torricelli, who travelled to Iraq's Basra front during his five-day visit and returned Wednesday night, said he saw "literally hundreds of tanks destroyed... around the city."

He also said he had been informed by Iraqi officials that Iran had destroyed more than 10 per cent of Iraq's air force — some \$15 billion worth of planes — in the past 10 days alone.

Mr. Torricelli said he believed both examples were the direct result of the sale of U.S. anti-tank weapons and Hawk anti-aircraft missiles to Iran. "There is real reason to believe the Hawks are not obsolete," he told an impassive Shultz. "I believe you will find they are I-Hawks," an updated, improved version.

Mr. Weinberger said Wednesday the United States had supplied only Hawk parts.

White House said to have planned invasion of Libya

WASHINGTON (R) — Top White House officials drew up a plan for a joint U.S.-Egyptian invasion of Libya in 1985 to topple Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, the Washington Post reported Friday.

It said the plan was defused by the State Department, which took extraordinary steps in the summer of 1985 to squash the idea.

It quoted unidentified sources

as saying the plan called for Egypt to invade Libya and capture half its territory with U.S. air support and use that position to force Col. Qaddafi out of power.

The plan, codenamed Rose, was devised by then National Security Council (NSC) Director Robert McFarlane, his deputy, John Poindexter, and third-ranking NSC aide, Donald Fortier, the newspaper said.

Musavi says Bush had role in secret Iran trip

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's prime minister has said American "party factions" are trying to conceal the role played by U.S. Vice President George Bush in the arms-for-peace scandal.

Tehran Radio Thursday night quoted the official, Hussein Musavi, as saying documents published after the kidnapping in Lebanon of American William Buckley showed Bush was involved.

Mr. Musavi said the documents showed attempts were made to conceal the part played by Mr. Bush in the visit to Iran by former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane.

Reagan reportedly approved kidnapping of extremists

NEW YORK (R) — President Reagan last year secretly authorised the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to kidnap suspected extremists and bring them to the United States for trial, the Wall Street Journal reported Friday.

The newspaper quoted unidentified administration, law enforcement and intelligence officials as saying the policy directive, signed by Mr. Reagan in January 1986, also permitted covert operations to pre-empt terrorist plots.

So far, the United States has not tried to kidnap any suspected terrorists, it said.

Mr. Reagan's decision was strongly opposed by some officials in the administration, the CIA and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, according to the report.

"His decision raised concern among members of the congressional intelligence committees, particularly over the wisdom of the kidnapping idea and the prospect of pre-emptive U.S. attacks on terrorists," it said.

A White House spokesman did not return telephone calls re-

questing information about the directive, the Wall Street Journal said.

The CIA operation was to have been supervised by Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, it said. Mr. Reagan fired Col. North, a National Security Council aide, three months ago because of his role in the Iran arms scandal.

"Officials say that Col. North and former CIA Director William Casey were instrumental in developing the kidnapping idea," the Wall Street Journal said.

Col. North and Duane Clarridge, the head of the CIA Counter-Terrorism Centre, chaired a special interagency group called the operations sub-group to oversee the covert activities, it said.

The newspaper said the policy had its roots in the administration's frustration with its inability to apprehend suspected terrorists, especially in Lebanon.

"In friendlier and less chaotic countries, administration officials say, authorities sometimes apprehend suspected terrorists, drug dealers and other criminals and hand them over to the U.S. without any legal formalities," it said.

Iran insists on German apology for sketch

BONN (R) — Iran wants a formal apology from West Germany for a television sketch depicting Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini being showered with women's underwear, the Iranian ambassador to Bonn said Friday.

Mohammad Djalavi Salari said Tehran also wanted an apology for a published remark by a senior aide to Chancellor Helmut Kohl who said he despised the Iranian spiritual leader as a "slave-driver" like Hitler and Stalin.

"Our people and our government expect the West German government to take more concrete measures. An apology would make things easier," Mr. Salari told a news conference.

He said it was up to the Tehran government to decide whether to add to diplomatic measures already taken if an apology was not made for the sketch, which figured in a television comedy show on Sunday night.

Official spokesman Friedhelm Ost said the West German government had already made clear it regretted the sketch, for which the show's Dutch host Rudi Carrell has apologised, but that it was not responsible and had no control over the media.

"We cannot apologise directly for things which we did not do," Mr. Ost told a separate news conference.

Iran has ordered two West German diplomats to leave the country and said it had also closed the West German Goethe Cultural Institute in Tehran in retaliation for the sketch.

Mr. Salari was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Thursday to be told of concern at Iran's escalating reaction and that such developments could have negative consequences for both sides, West German officials said.

Mr. Salari said Iran regretted a remark by Mr. Kohl's senior foreign policy adviser, Horst Telschik, in an interview in the magazine supplement to the Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper.

Mr. Telschik, asked which historical figures he most despised, was quoted as saying "slave-drivers like Hitler, Stalin, Khomeini."

Mr. Salari said the remark was being treated differently in Tehran from the television sketch because it had not reached so wide an audience but added that Iran still expected an apology.

Mr. Ost said Mr. Telschik had been interviewed in a personal capacity and not in his professional role.

Khomeini appears in public again

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's revolutionary patriarch, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, appeared in public in Tehran for the third time in two weeks when he greeted girl students at his home in a northern suburb of the capital.

U.N. commission condemns Israel

GENEVA (R) — The 43-nation United Nations Human Rights Commission, in a regular procedure of its six-week annual session, has condemned Israel's occupation of Arab and Palestinian territory seized during the 1967 six-day war.

The resolution was adopted by 29 votes to six, with seven abstentions. The United States, Britain, Norway, West Germany, Belgium and Costa Rica voted against, France abstained.

The resolution noted the Palestinian people's right to a homeland and affirmed the right

of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to act as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Israel's occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights was condemned.

One paragraph of the resolution referring to "Israel's brutal practices and crimes of genocide against the Palestinian people" was voted on separately and was adopted by 22 votes to 12, with eight abstentions.

The commission adopted a resolution calling for Morocco and guerrillas of the Polisario Liber-

ation Front to arrange a quick ceasefire and organise a fair referendum on the future of the Western Sahara, formerly known as the Spanish Sahara.

Morocco annexed the vast, phosphate-rich territory after Spain withdrew in 1976 and has waged a desert war against the Algerian-backed guerrillas ever since.

The commission, which will be in session until March 13, will vote on resolutions covering alleged human rights violations in South Africa, Cuba, Afghanistan, Iran, Chile, El Salvador and other countries.

Chad says Libyan jet shot down

N'DJAMENA (R) — Government forces shot down a Libyan aircraft over the north western oasis of Zouar, a Chad military statement said.

The plane, a Soviet-made MIG, was hit by anti-aircraft guns belonging to Chadian President Hissene Habre's army, it said.

The military High Command said Libya had lost nine aircraft since Chad and Libya began fighting again nine weeks ago for control of northern Chad.

Libya has not reported fighting in the area and has denied it has troops operating in Chad. It says the conflict is among Chadian factions.

The Chadian command said its army had seized four Marchetti tactical support planes abandoned by Libyans after their rout at the north eastern oasis town of Fada on Jan. 2.

Government forces said they killed 81 Libyan soldiers this

week in encounters in the Zouar area, 1,000 kilometres north of the capital, N'Djamena.

Chad said its forces recaptured the strategic oasis town of Zouar on Jan. 21 but since then sporadic ground and almost continuous Libyan air raids have continued in and around the town.

Meanwhile French defence sources said Friday France is sending some 200 more men to Chad to help further reinforce its troops in its former central African colony.

The new troops will join a French force of up to 2,400 men sent to support President Habre against an estimated 15,000 Libyan and rebel forces massed in the north of Chad.

France rushed about 1,000 extra soldiers and new equipment to Chad earlier this month following reports of a major Libyan build-up north of the strategic "red-line" along the 16th parallel.

The reinforcement allowed France to set up new positions in the east central towns of Abeche and Biltine, moving France's military presence nearer battle zones. The line had effectively split Chad in two until Mr. Habre's army launched a drive last December to recapture the Libyan-held north.

Defence sources said the latest contingent would probably be responsible for improving air strips and offering other logistical support at the new French outposts, which are equipped with radar and anti-aircraft weapons.

Until the recent redeployment, France's defence force was largely limited to an area around the capital of N'Djamena. Part of an operation known as Sparrowhawk, the force was first sent to Chad last February to help Mr. Habre's army hunt a southwards drive by Libya and its rebel allies.

Bonn seeks to normalise ties with Syria

BONN (R) — The West German government confirmed Friday that it is seeking to normalise diplomatic ties with Syria after a downgrading last November over the implication of the Syrian government in a bomb attack in West Berlin.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Juergen Chrobog said the government had requested Syrian permission to send a new ambassador to Damascus, filling a post left vacant as part of the downgrading.

"Reports that we are seeking an agreement are correct," Mr. Chrobog told a news conference. "Preparations for the naming of our new ambassador are under way," he said.

Mr. Chrobog made clear Syria had not yet replied to the request and said it was too early to comment on who the new ambassador would be or when he would take up the post.

West Germany froze the appointment of a new ambassador and expelled four Syrian diplomats from Bonn last November after a West Berlin court ruled there was evidence of official Syrian involvement in a bomb attack in the city the previous March.

Syria denied involvement and retaliated by expelling three West German diplomats from Damas-

cus and recalling its ambassador from Bonn.

Mr. Chrobog gave no reason for the timing of the West German request.

Official sources in Bonn have said, however, that both Syria and Iran are playing a positive role in efforts to secure the release of two West Germans held hostage in Beirut.

The two are being held in a bid to force West Germany not to extradite Mohammad Ali Hamadei, a Lebanese wanted by the United States on charges of air piracy and murder in the 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner, the sources said.

Shamir leaves Washington

(Continued from page 1)

of having to face "extreme Arab demands."

Despite Mr. Shamir's views, President Reagan and key aides told the Israeli leader an international peace conference that included the Soviets may be one way to get peace talks started.

"We are opposed, I am opposed," Mr. Shamir said. "In my opinion, it will be harmful to peace, to prospects of peace in our area, and to Israeli interests."

Asked if Soviet recognition of Israel would cause him to change his mind about a peace conference, the prime minister told AP "in my opinion, no."

In fact, Mr. Shamir said, the

Reagan administration was not enthusiastic about a peace conference, but had to explore it in deference to others.

Some U.S. officials believe the Soviets could be confined to a nominal role, but Mr. Shamir said that was "an illusion."

Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger and Mr. Shamir held a 45-minute "one-on-one meeting" on Thursday which was "considerably longer than was programmed," spokesman Robert Sims said. They then began a half-hour plenary session with a number of other people present.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19	21:00 In Concert 22:00 Discovering Music 22:30 Easy Listening 23:00 Country Music 24:00 Close Down
PROGRAMME ONE	15:00 Koran 15:50 Programme Review 16:00 Cartoons and children programmes 17:05 Amman, Animals 17:30 Chocky 18:00 Teaching French 18:20 Arabic series 19:10 Family programme 19:40 Programme review and varieties 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Iraq Newsletter 20:45 Arabic series 21:30 Local Reportage 22:10 Tomorrow's programmes 22:15 Arabic play 23:00 News summary in Arabic 23:10 Play continued
PROGRAMME TWO	Entire libe 18:30 L'arche Francaise 19:00 News in French 19:15 La Valle des Peupliers 19:30 News in Hebrew 19:45 Perspective 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Music Box 21:30 Dad's Army 22:00 News in English 22:20 Feature film: "Acceptable Risks" — Cicely Tyson, Brian Denney, Kenneth McMillan
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM & partly on 950 KHz. SW Tel: 77111-19	07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsweek 08:00 Morning Show 08:30 News Summary 09:05 Morning Show Cont. 11:00 25 Years of Rock 12:00 News Summary 12:05 Pay any Price 12:30 Pop Session 13:00 News Summary 13:05 Pop Session cont. 14:00 News Bulletin 14:05 Jordan Weekly 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 17:00 Special Feature 17:30 Music 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Top Twenty 19:00 Newsweek 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Rock Profile 20:30 My Word
VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz	05:00 News 05:10 VOA Morning 05:30 News Summary 05:40 Morning 06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30 News Summary 06:40 Morning 06:50 News 07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News Summary 07:40 Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Closeup 08:30 News Summary VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 This Week 17:30 Press Conference USA 18:00 News 18:10 American Viewpoints 18:30 Special English News & Features 18:50 News 19:10 Weekend 20:00 News 20:10 Closeup 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 American Viewpoints 21:30 Press Conference USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 Weekend

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Muzaab, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630126.
EXHIBITIONS	* An exhibition entitled "Bazilikian" at the French Cultural Centre (until Feb. 28). * The Goethe Institute presents an exhibition entitled "Six Centuries of German Woodcut Art" at the Petra Bank Gallery — Wadi Sagra (until Feb. 22). * Fine arts exhibition by Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Feb. 23). * An art exhibition by Mohammad Polce and Munira Al Tamsa at the Housing Bank Centre Gallery.
CULTURAL CENTRES	Royal Cultural Centre — Tel. 6610267 American Centre — 644371 British Council — 6361478 French Cultural Centre — 637009 Goethe Institute — 641093 Soviet Cultural Centre — 642039 Spanish Cultural Centre — 639777 Turkish Cultural Centre — 661095 Husaen Youth City — 6671816 Y.W.C.A. — 641793 Y.W.M.C.A. — 664251 Amman Municipal Library — 637111 Univ. of Jordan Library — 843553
MUSEUMS	"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday. Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.
ARRIVALS	ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 06:05 Bagdad (JU) 06:20 Bagdad (LH) 12:30 Cairo (MS) 15:00 Kuwait (KU) 15:45 Kuwait (LH) 16:40 Riyadh (SV) 19:30 Bagdad (IA)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	04:05 Bagdad (JU) 06:20 Bagdad (LH) 12:30 Cairo (MS) 15:00 Kuwait (KU) 15:45 Kuwait (LH) 16:40 Riyadh (SV) 19:30 Bagdad (IA)
PRAYER TIMES	04:51 Fajr 05:10 Sunrise/Dhuha 11:49 Dhuha 15:08 Asr 17:28 Maghrib 18:47 Isha
DEPARTURES	ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 06:45 Aqaba (RU) 11:00 Vienna, New York (RU) 11:50 Tripoli (RU) 12:30 Paris (RU) 13:45 Rome, Madrid (RU) 14:00 Geneva, London (RU) 14:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RU) 14:30 Cairo (RU) 15:30 Cairo (RU) 16:30 Bahrain, Doha (RU) 16:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RU) 21:00 Bagdad (RU) 21:00 Bagdad (RU)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	Amman governorate 891228 Amman Civil Defence 198, 199 Civil Defence 1st Bd 271293, 275131 Civil Defence Qawmish 770733 Civil Defence Qawmish 57306 Ambulance 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade, 196 First aid 630341 Blood Bank 778303 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 661111 Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777 Police headquarters 639141 Traffic police 8963901 Electric Power Co. (EPC) 642881 Municipal water complaints 771258 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 533060
HOSPITALS	Husseini Medical Centre 813813/2 Khalid Matar, J. Amn. 642816 Al-Shifa Matar, J. Amn. 642412 Jabal Amman Maternity 642562 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shamsani 644174 Shamsani Hospital 645845/65 University Hospital 845845/65 Al-Musharraf Hospital 6672779 The Islamic, Abdal 6612757 Al-Ahli, Al-Musharraf 641646 Al-Bashir, J. Amman 7710173 Al-Bashir, J. Amman 7751126 Army, Marja 8916175 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital 674155
GENERAL	Jordan Television 7731179
MARKET PRICES	Uppefower price in lbs per kg. Apple (All kinds) 280 / 270 Banana 220 / 220 Banana (Mukammar) 270 / 220 Beans 480 / 430 Broad beans 130 / 100 Cabbage 110 / 70 Carrot (black) 150 / 120 Carrot (yellow) 110 / 80 Cauliflower (yellow) 120 / 90 Cauliflower (white) 50 / 30 Chestnut 380 / 140 Cucumbers 170 / 130 Eggplant (small) 140 / 100 Eggplant (large) 140 / 100

Queen inaugurates NHF centre in Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Thursday inaugurated the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) centre in Aqaba. The centre — established in cooperation with the Federation of Women in Aqaba — will provide a model pre-school training programme for nursery and kindergarten school teachers. It also will offer special training to local women, primarily those between 18 to 30 years, in the production, marketing and sale of traditional handicrafts.

Queen Noor toured the centre's nursery, kindergarten and four recreational facilities, as well as the multi-purpose theatre hall which houses a library and various cultural, educational and sports facilities. Her Majesty also visited the vocational training workshop, established in cooperation with the Vocational Training Corporation, where local women receive training in the

maintenance and repair of electrical household appliances. In the traditional handicrafts section of the centre, the Queen was briefed on current plans to assist and train local craftsmen and women produce innovative, better quality and more attractively priced products for sale to tourists visiting Aqaba.

The Port Authority of Aqaba offered a generous financial contribution, as well as the building facilities, to assist the Noor Al Hussein Foundation with the establishment of this project. A general steering committee of 27 members from both the public and private sectors has now been established.

Her Majesty was received by the governor of Aqaba, the director of the Aqaba Regional Authority, the director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, the mayor of Aqaba and other senior officials.

Spanish defence minister winds up official talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Spanish Defence Minister Marcos Serra left Amman on Thursday at the conclusion of a 48-hour visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein and toured military positions and archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

Mr. Serra was seen off by Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and senior officials.

On Wednesday evening, Mr. Serra held a press conference in which he said Spain did not have

military ties with Israel and did not foresee establishing them.

Mr. Serra said the question of arms supplies did not come up in his talks with King Hussein, saying his visits to Saudi Arabia and Jordan were to exchange views on regional conflicts, not to promote arms sales. Mr. Serra also said that Spain will "fight in favour" of an international Middle East peace conference with its European Community partners.

"Spain is clearly in favour of the international conference," Mr. Serra told the news conference.

No plans to raise work permit fees, official says

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior official at the Ministry of Labour has denied that the ministry plans to increase the fees charged for work permits issued to non-Jordanian workers.

Dr. Mansour 'Utum, director of labour at the Ministry of Labour, said there was no truth in the widely circulating rumours of hiking the present JD 10 to 150 fees paid by non-Jordanians working in the Kingdom. "We are bound to these figures by the labour law issued by Parliament in 1986," said Dr. 'Utum.

The amount each foreigner pays depend on his profession and nationality, he said. Non-Jordanian Arabs working in agri-

culture pay JD 10, and all other non-Jordanian Arab workers pay JD 30, regardless of their profession.

Non-Arab foreigners working in the Kingdom are divided into three categories. Nurses, unskilled and semi-skilled workers such as house servants and agricultural workers pay JD 50. Those in services and construction pay JD 100 while all other non-Arab foreigners pay a yearly fee of JD 150 for their work permits.

No work permits are issued to any foreigners if there is a Jordanian available for the job, said Dr. 'Utum. He added that most of the 97,000 foreign workers registered in Jordan in 1986 were in areas where there is a lack of Jordanian manpower.

Ministerial committee reviews proposals on unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — The ministerial committee charged with handling unemployment in Jordan on Thursday reviewed studies and recommendations submitted by a sub-committee.

The committee also discussed training programmes proposed by the University of Jordan to offer graduate doctors and engineers advanced training to prepare them for jobs; and programmes proposed by the Vocational Training Corporation for training 5,000 job seekers who could re-

place foreign workers, especially in the agricultural, mechanical, construction, electrical and hotel sectors.

The committee, which met under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali, also reviewed recommendations and plans related to the educational process.

The committee also discussed a proposal for the creation of a Jordanian corporation that will study the labour markets in Jordan.

Jordan to promote tourism

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian tourist delegation has left for Muscat, Oman, to take part in a Jordanian trade fair due to open there today. "A Fair Trade Centres Corporation said that 65 Jordanian businesses and industrial concerns are taking part in the fair.

several variety shows, featuring Jordanian folklore troupes, will be held during the fair which will last 10 days.

A spokesman for the Jordanian Trade Centres Corporation said that 65 Jordanian businesses and industrial concerns are taking part in the fair.

UNESCO director to open regional office here

AMMAN (J.T.) — The regional offices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) will be officially opened here next month at a ceremony to be attended by UNESCO Director General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow who will arrive in Amman on March 10 for the occasion, according to an official announcement issued in Amman on Friday.

The announcement was made by Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Kazem, director of the UNESCO regional offices in Amman. The regional offices were established last August under an agreement with the Jordanian government.

Dr. Kazem said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the Amman office supervises educational cooperation between UNESCO and Arab countries; especially in the fields of computer sciences, technology and library sciences and in education in general with a view to promoting educational services and eradicating illiteracy.

UNESCO selected Jordan to house its regional office in view of the Kingdom's vast educational experience and its continued drive to implement UNESCO's programmes and as a result of its experience in organising regional and international conferences in education, science and technology, in addition to available educational facilities in the country. Dr. Kazem said. The Amman office, he continued, will offer services throughout the region, extending from Muscat in Oman to Casablanca in Morocco.

The office will organise seminars and educational gatherings to discuss training and offer expertise to national authorities. Dr. Kazem pointed out. He said that one of the major conferences will be held in Amman in April and will be attended by 22 under-secretaries of ministries of education in Arab countries. These officials, he added, will be involved in helping UNESCO work out an integrated programme and establishing a documentation centre in Amman that will benefit scholars, researchers and planners in education.

The Amman office, Dr. Kazem said, is one of four UNESCO regional centres established around the world, the other three being in Chile, Thailand and Senegal.

Jordan succeeds in halting high energy consumption

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan consumed only 1.6 per cent more energy in 1986 than it did in 1985 compared to an average annual increase of 13 per cent between 1974 and 1984.

The total consumption of energy in 1986 was the equivalent of 2,864 tonnes of fuel compared to 2,819 in 1985. The amount of energy used last year in production was 2.6 per cent, up one per cent from the previous year.

The energy cost in 1986 was 5.9 per cent of the gross national product (GNP), considerably less than the 13 to 14 per cent average of GNP in previous years. GNP in 1986 increased by 3.2 per cent. The efficiency of energy consumption in 1986 was 515 kilograms for every \$1,000 in GNP which is close to European and Japanese figures.

Over the last year, the ministry carried out public awareness campaigns through the media, urging rationalisation of energy consumption on all levels.

The success of the rationalisation policy can be detected by monitoring and analysing the various economic sectors and their consumption. In the transport sector, consumption in 1986 remained at the 1985 levels de-

spited the increase in the number of vehicles from 173,000 in 1985 to 179,000 in 1986 (a 3.5 per cent increase).

There has also been an increasing tendency towards rationalising petrol consumption manifested through increasing popularity of smaller vehicles and public transport.

In the field of electricity, fuel needed to produce one kilowatt/hour was 282 grammes in 1985 compared to 274 grammes in 1986, an improvement of three per cent in the efficiency of generating electricity.

Industrial production increased by 1.4 per cent while energy consumption in the same sector increased by 1.3 per cent.

Electricity consumption in 1986 increased from 2,151 megawatts to 2,362 megawatts in 1986 (10 per cent increase) compared to the average annual increase of 19 per cent between 1974 and 1984.

Jordanian households have also increased their use of solar energy for water heating from 20,000 households in 1985 to 50,000 in 1986.

The transport sector remains the biggest consumer of energy (about 39 per cent of total consumption) followed by electricity sector, consumption in 1986 remained at the 1985 levels de-

and nine per cent by other sectors.

The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) sales of fuel increased in 1986 from 2,622 to 2,583 tonnes (nine per cent). The increase is attributed to the Jordan Electricity Authority's buying of 100,000 tonnes which were stored at the Aqaba Thermal Power Station for strategic purposes, and for exporting electricity to Syria.

Petroleum by-products produced by the JPRC in 1986 reached 2,265 tonnes from 2,424 in 1985. Demand for heavy fuel increased by 22 per cent in 1986 while demand for car fuel remained at the same levels.

Jordan imported 610,000 tonnes of heavy fuel from Iraq and Kuwait as the imports were more economically feasible than extracting it from crude oil in Jordan. Fifty per cent of the import cost was paid by Jordanian products and services.

The amount of electricity generated last year reached 2,955 megawatt/hour.

The Kingdom imported 2,967 tonnes of fuel out of which 2,300 tonnes were of crude oil and the rest was by-products, mainly heavy fuel. The increase in import was 2.6 per cent in 1986. The increase was in the import of heavy fuel (54.4 per cent) while the import of crude declined by 7.5 per cent. Heavy fuel cost 40 per cent less than crude.

Iryani, N. Yemeni delegation conclude talks on bilateral relations, cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani left for home on Thursday at the conclusion of a three-day official visit to Jordan. During the visit, he was received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein to whom he delivered a message from North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Dr. Iryani also met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and co-chaired a joint Jordanian-North Yemeni committee meeting with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri to discuss the development of bilateral relations and cooperation.

Speaking before his departure, Dr. Iryani said that the talks covered political, economic, educational and cultural affairs. The visit and the talks, he said, opened up new avenues for coop-

eration between the two countries and revealed an identity of views on subjects of mutual concern.

Joint communique

Shortly before his departure, a joint communique was issued in Amman calling for a comprehensive and permanent peace in the Middle East based on a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and the recognition of Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

Both countries voiced their total commitment to supporting Iraq in its drive to defend its territory and protect the Arab nation and they also voiced support for efforts to end the tragedy in Lebanon and help ensure the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

The communique expressed the two countries' determination to move ahead with plans for developing bilateral cooperation, especially in health, education, electricity, energy, communications, agriculture, irrigation and trade.

It said that the two sides reviewed a 1985 agreement in which Jordan and North Yemen agreed to launch technical cooperation and agreed to exchange visits by officials and experts in communications and to step up cooperation in energy, health and education-related fields. They also agreed to carry out joint economic projects in implementation of a 1984 agreement. They agreed to hold a round-table seminar for promoting bilateral cooperation in economic and social affairs and a date for the seminar will be fixed late in 1987.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arab justice official ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary General of the Arab Justice Ministers Council Mohammad Miko left Amman on Thursday ending a four-day visit to Jordan during which he met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Minister of Justice Riyadh Al Shakra. During these meetings they reviewed existing cooperation between the ministry and the Arab Justice Ministers Council. Also discussed were arrangements for the forthcoming conference of the Arab justice ministers which will open here under royal patronage on April 11. Mr. Miko said that the four-day conference will discuss several working papers on the unification of Arab legislations and a number of judicial and legal issues in various Arab countries.

Sharif Zaid opens outpatient clinic

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker on Thursday opened the outpatient clinics of the King Hussein Medical Centre in Prince Rashed suburb. Gen. Sharif Zaid toured the various clinics in the building and was briefed by the Director of the Royal Medical Services Lieutenant General Dr. Daoud Hananiya on the medical services which will be offered. The new building comprises clinics for internal medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, paediatrics and dentistry in addition to a pharmacy, laboratory and a X-ray section. The building was set up to expand effective medical services to Armed Forces staff and other beneficiaries.

Dudin meets Anglican archbishop

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin Thursday conferred with Archbishop Samir Kafiti, head of the Anglican Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. In the meeting, they reviewed the situation and activities of social and health institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which are run by the church. They are the Princess Basma Orphanage for the physically handicapped in Jerusalem and the Arab Ahli Hospital in Gaza. Mr. Dudin reassured Archbishop Kafiti of the government's keenness to offer assistance to these institutions.

Shareholding shuffle at AMPCO

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has transformed the agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) into a private shareholding company with a capital of JD 10 million, in accordance with a Cabinet decision announced on Thursday.

The government will own 70 per cent of the shares while the remainder will be offered to the Pension Fund which will own 12.5 per cent of the shares, the Social Security Corporation which will have 12.5 per cent and the Agricultural Credit Corporation which will have five per cent share of the capital.

AMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan said that a new statute and bylaws have been worked out for the new company and signed by representatives of the participating parties. Soon, AMPCO will appoint a new board of directors comprising 10 members seven of whom will be representing the government and the other three representing the other parties which hold shares in the company, Mr. Abu Hassan said.

He said that the company's aim is to support the work of farmers in the country and to help ensure food security for Jordan.

In its meeting, the Cabinet also decided to approve a loan extended to Jordan by the Belgian International Bank. The loan of \$2.5 million will be re-lent to the Jordanian Tourist and Mineral Water Company.

The loan will be used to finance the purchase and supply of equipment to be used in the Zarqa Ma'in mineral springs project, south of Madaba.

The Cabinet also approved the exchange of a memorandum of understanding between Jordan and West Germany under which the latter will finance the construction of a centre for the manufacture of artificial limbs to be operated by the Health Ministry. The Cabinet authorized Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan to sign the memorandum on behalf of the Jordanian government.

Czech economic team leaves after signing protocol to promote trade

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Jan Garcar, assistant to the Czechoslovak minister of foreign trade, left Amman on Friday at the end of a four-day visit to Jordan during which he held talks with Jordanian ministers and other officials and signed a protocol designed to promote economic and trade links between Jordan and Czechoslovakia.

The protocol, signed by Mr. Garcar and Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mohammad Saqqaf came at the end of talks held by the joint Jordanian-Czechoslovak committee which reviewed trade ties and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Under the terms of the protocol, Czechoslovakia will purchase 130,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate in the first half of 1987 and will make an assessment of its needs for the second half of the year.

Symposium on city organisation ends with call for policies on coordination in planning

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a five-day symposium on modern city organisation and planning, which concluded here on Thursday, have praised the Jordanian experience in the field of comprehensive economic and social planning and also stressed the necessity of concentrating on the method adopted by the five-year development plan which links sectoral planning to regional planning.

They also called for setting up a higher planning council for transport and traffic in Jordan to follow up on the implementation of security issues, to draw up future policies and to develop the necessary legal and organisational frameworks. The symposium's recommendations emphasised the necessity of drawing up a policy for the use of lands at the national level and to take the necessary steps to implement the idea of comprehensive organisation for land use.

They also praised the experience of the Public Security Department (PSD) and the Civil Defence Department in planning

and implementing public safety programmes and stressed the need to set up a higher council for safety on roads. The proposed council would be entrusted with coordinating and drawing up policies for all institutions working in this field and following up on their implementation.

The symposium revealed that there was duplicity and a lack of clarity in the gathering, classification and circulation of data related to planning and housing and called for upgrading, updating and developing technical and corporate frameworks for gathering and processing this data.

On the last day of Mr. Garcar's visit, he met with Dr. Taher Kanaan, the minister of planning, to discuss means of bolstering

technical cooperation and promoting trade links. Mr. Garcar and his accompanying delegation were briefed on the Ministry of Planning's programmes for developing Jordan's social and economic sectors and were also briefed on the national five-year plan.

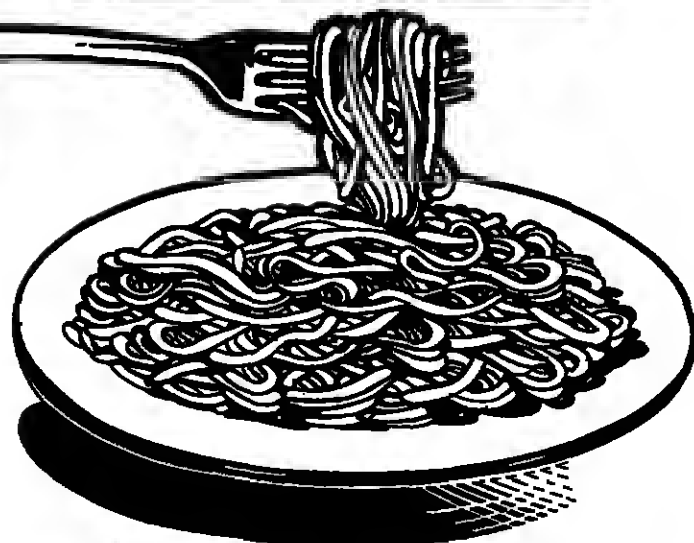
Technical cooperation

During a meeting with Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh, Mr. Garcar discussed prospects of technical cooperation with Jordan in the field of road construction involving the use of reinforced concrete. They also explored possibilities of bilateral cooperation in the development of mineral spas for therapeutic purposes and in the field of engineering.

The participants also stressed the importance of setting up security centres in all areas within the framework of the PSD's plan to achieve the concept of comprehensive security and public safety. They also called for coordination between the corporations working in these fields. Another call was for setting up a body which would be charged with coordination between various studies conducted by consulting corporations to avoid duplicity and to achieve integration in these studies. The symposium was organised by the Greater Amman Municipality in cooperation with the local Alpha Company.

Delegates from different government departments and municipalities discussed subjects related to organising cities, industrial and economic projects within the city boundaries, infrastructure projects, traffic problems, comprehensive security measures inside cities, urban development programmes, first aid and emergency centres and environmental planning.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Shamir rejects peace conference

AMERICAN officials have reportedly expressed disappointment with the outcome of their talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir who, they say, has refused the idea of the international conference to resolve the Middle East problem. But we say there is no need for issuing statements to this effect to the public while the Americans are doing everything they can to support Israel and back its dealings with the Arabs. Shamir has been calling for direct talks with the Arabs and the United States has been avoiding any discussion of the idea of an international conference. Above all the U.S. has been maintaining an alliance with Israel not only supplying it with weapons and unlimited financial help but also protecting its crimes and providing it with means of perpetuating its occupation of Arab land. The U.S. administration realises that the international conference is a means for implementing the international community's decision and will and it would be a chance for the establishment of real peace, but the U.S. still backs the Israelis in their demand for direct talks with the Arabs. This American position encourages Shamir and other Israeli leaders to maintain their rejection of the international conference idea. Even if direct talks with the Arabs were held without such a conference we wonder who will guarantee that Israel will adhere to the agreements.

Al Dustour: Peace in the Gulf

NOW that Tehran has announced it will follow Iraq's example and stop launching raids and missile attacks on Iraqi cities, we sincerely hope other steps will be taken to pave the way for a total end of the fighting. Over the past years, Iran has been adamant in its position and its rejection of all peace bids from the world community. Iran has been pursuing all efforts to prolong the war with Iraq, bringing upon itself destruction and ruin and causing the death of thousands of Iranian people. For its part, Iraq had been calling for an end to the conflict and has responded to all peace bids with the purpose of reaching a permanent settlement with its neighbour. Now that Iran has responded favourably to Iraq's decision to stop the shelling of cities in both countries, we feel this is a positive step and we feel that mediation efforts should now resume so that a comprehensive peace can be reached. We sincerely wish that the Iranian regime will respond favourably to all new efforts and bids to bring peace to the Gulf region because we want an end to the tragedy of the Muslim peoples in both countries and we desire peace for the Arabs and the Iranians alike.

Sawt Al Shaab: Hopes for Gulf peace

ONCE again Iraq has, from a position of strength, made a new bid to end the war with Iran. It has announced a moratorium of two weeks in the so-called cities war following weeks of horrible shelling and missile attacks that brought so much destruction to the Arab and Muslim peoples on both sides. The new announcement from Baghdad is part of Iraq's campaign to bring an end to the conflict that has raged for more than six years and to establish a comprehensive peace in the Gulf region. In return to Iraq's successive attempts to reach peace with Iran, the Tehran regime has over the past years pursued its aggression on Iraqi territory and in the process, caused the death of thousands of Iranian men and devastation to Iranian cities and economic installations. Iraq has been exercising self-defence by launching raids on selected targets inside Iran but the Iranians have been killing innocent people with their missile attacks on the cities of Iraq. We believe that the Iraqi decision to stop raiding Iranian cities will draw positive reaction from Iran, and we hope that the Iranian regime will now understand that only through peaceful negotiations can the dispute with its Arab neighbour be settled.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: U.S. loses credibility

KING Hussein has said in an interview with the British newspaper The Financial Times that the United States has lost all credibility in the Arab World and that the revelations about U.S. arms deals with Iran more than shocked him. The King was so critical of the U.S. deal with Iran in view of the fact that Iran continues to reject all peace efforts and all calls for ending the conflict with Iraq. The U.S. arms deal reflects the United States desire for perpetuating the war and the death and destruction in the Gulf and at the same time contradicts with all the principles and values that Washington has been supporting, and calling on other countries to uphold. By supplying Iran with weapons for continuing the war the United States has also proved that it intends to perpetuate the Arab-Israeli conflict and deny the Arabs the right to live in peace. The United States keeps bragging about the need for safeguarding human rights of all people, while in practice it continues to supply arms to those who wish to perpetuate their aggression on peoples of the world, denying them their legitimate rights. The U.S. arms deal with Iran proves once again that the United States is not willing nor it is qualified to play any role for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. King Hussein told the British newspaper that Jordan will seek arms from Europe and the Soviet Union in order to defend itself and in view of Washington's insistence on supplying arms to the enemies of the Arab Nation.

Al Dustour: U.S. vs. Arabs

KING Hussein has once again reaffirmed that the United States has lost its credibility in the Middle East because of its arms deals with Iran. The King told the Financial Times newspaper that the United States has contradicted all its pledges to remain neutral in the Iraq-Iran war by supplying the Tehran regime with sophisticated weapons with which it can prolong the war in the Gulf region, causing more and more destruction and tragedies. The United States which has been giving advice to its allies about the most proper means of dealing with terrorists has itself dealt with the terrorists and the aggressors, and its behaviour has shocked all world nations even its close allies. Every day brings with it more details of the U.S. arms deal with Iran and underhand dealings with the terrorists who have apparently succeeded in forcing Washington to succumb to their demands and to continue their supplies of arms. For this reason, the Arabs were shocked by the U.S. behaviour and they believe America has lost all credibility in the eyes of all people.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Genuine or illusory development?

By Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber

THE world is changing around us at such an accelerated pace that one wonders if we, in the Arab World are changing at all. Perhaps there is genuine development in some individual countries but the total picture is not encouraging. Development, where it occurs is, at best, uneven within the same country as well as regionally. Even within the same city, any Arab city, the contrast is so stark between the rich and poor sections that it needs no elaboration. Local media extol the accomplishments while a deeper look into our situation speaks otherwise. The Arab World has the highest population growth rate in the entire world; a growth that continues to swallow any material progress. In a characteristic Arab manner we continue to ignore this problem in the hope that it will somehow get solved. Even now we cannot satisfy the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. How will the situation be when our population doubles in the next two decades? The health situation throughout the Arab World is still of sub-standard. A UNESCO report issued early this year indicates that over 50 per cent of all adult Arabs are illiterate. "Feeding himself on empty walnuts" is a Jordanian saying describing a person who likes to inflate his own ego by creating imaginary accomplishments for himself. The trouble is, sometimes, that such a person gets truly full! It is here that illusion supercedes reality and wishful thinking fact. The fact is that if we are developing at all we are developing at a very, very slow pace. We already pointed to the bad distribution of wealth not only regionally but within each country as well as between the city and the country side. We have not built, nor does it look likely that we have any genuine intention to build, the modern state that is equipped to tackle modern problems.

New storms ahead for U.S.-European relations

By Richard Balmforth
 Reuter

BRUSSELS — U.S.-European relations, the foundation of the 16-nation Atlantic alliance, face a fresh bout of turbulence as a new American ambassador to NATO prepares to take up his post in Brussels.

In the judgment of most at NATO headquarters, outgoing envoy David Abshire, who left last month, did a better job than most in trying to keep the bridge between the Reagan administration and the European allies in good repair.

But despite Abshire's best efforts during his three-and-a-half years in office, transatlantic ties are undergoing a period of unusual strain.

Fear among the West Europeans that Washington may be about to reinterpret its landmark Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty with Moscow is the latest in a series of West-West issues that have thrown Europe into confusion over the U.S. administration's intentions.

Diplomats say that Alton Keel, who takes over as U.S. permanent representative to NATO, may have to carry out "running repairs" to the alliance by the time he arrives next month.

"There is an unusually high level of friction," one veteran analyst of NATO affairs said. "And there is nothing to suggest there is any change on the horizon."

Not all the issues are strictly NATO-related.

A bitter and protracted trade dispute with the 12-nation European Community and the continuing Iranian arms scandal have fostered the image in Europe of a U.S. administration at the same time unearing, unpredictable and disturbingly vulnerable in foreign policy.

European disenchantment set in last April when Washington, alleging that Libya had sponsored terrorist actions abroad, launched bombing raids on Tripoli and Benghazi less than 12 hours after a European Community plea for restraint.

Many Europeans concluded that allied opinion counted for little in U.S. decision-making when it was on the wrong side of a powerful vote-winning issue at home.

Controversial U.S. moves in the East-West field since then have continued to take the edge

off admiration by the NATO allies for the Reagan administration's tough, no-nonsense approach to Moscow.

The U.S. breakout from the unratified SALT-2 treaty on strategic arms limitation last year provoked dismay in Western Europe where it was seen as unnecessary, politically and militarily, and a difficult move to "sell" to Western public opinion.

Then came the Reykjavik summit in October between President Reagan and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

After U.S. assurances that the meeting would hold no surprises, the NATO allies learned with something near to horror that the U.S. side had come close to agreeing the abolition of all strategic ballistic missiles within the next 10 years.

But the detente-minded allies still want an arms agreement — if only to justify to their often sceptical electors the public support they have shown for the deeply conservative Reagan administration.

Their biggest grievance is that, with only two more years of life left in the current administration, an arms deal with the Soviets is now looking increasingly remote. Reagan's attachment to the strategic defence initiative (SDI) for an anti-missile space shield over the United States — regarded by Moscow as a major impediment to an agreement — is not shared by the allies.

The administration's apparent determination to push ahead with development of SDI, or "Star Wars" as it is informally called, lies at the heart of Europe's worries over the future of the ABM treaty.

Press reports indicate the Reagan administration favours broadening the traditional interpretation of the treaty to allow extensive testing of some parts of the SDI system.

Such a move, the allies fear, could scuttle a treaty they say forms the cornerstone of strategic stability and has become a symbol of East-West detente.

The election last year of democratic-controlled U.S. Senate, however, has placed the allies in a tricky position.

The Europeans generally expect the Democrats to take a more flexible line on arms control and exert a brake on pursuit of SDI deployment by the Reagan administration.

the political milieu in which they are found. Without some democratising, without providing some participatory system, no genuine development will occur, for present development plans are essentially addressing the physical, not the human needs. Such a participatory system need not be developed over night to resemble the British or some other system, but it must draw more people into the decision-making process especially about issues that affect their very life now and their future too. A peculiar and perhaps dangerous psychology seems to have developed in the Arab World, especially on the official level regarding the concept of change. Such a psychology stresses the need to improve things without changing anything at all. That is perhaps why most governments in the Arab World ride, or think they are riding two horses at the same time: The one perpetuating, or encouraging the system of knowledge and traditional values that already exist or at least shying away from changing them, while the other is an attempt, often half-hearted, at achieving change.

The truth of the matter is that the mentality must change and we must realise that we cannot grapple with the problems of today with the tools and ideas of yesterday. The governments of the region compound the confusion of values that already exist when in their heart they know better. Once again this is not a call for abrupt radical change but one calling for evolution in the right direction. Again the Shah pushed so hard and with such insensitivity that he alienated his people to the point of explosion. Our governments, however, should begin to emphasise that we are what we know, that as knowledge changes we too must change, that the tools of yesterday are for yesterday, that institutions should be created especially those whose major task is to ask the right questions and

to seek the proper answers. We cannot continue to survive while perpetuating the least favourable conditions that eventually will not only control but stifle growth and change. Immovable customs, like immovable habits of thinking, are very dangerous to the creature that holds them. Natural and unnatural enemies quickly discover the pattern and attack.

Our people now confused and in dread of the unfamiliar must be taught that change is not only an adventure but a necessity to survival as well. Towards genuine development there are no short cuts, no magic formulas but the reality that exists around. We must set for ourselves some realistic goals that reflect our material and human resources. First and foremost we must emphasise that true development must begin in man himself to extend later to his environment. When trained properly, man will control and tame his environment and make it produce, however poor its natural resources. Switzerland, Japan, Singapore are classic examples of this phenomenon. Thus far, and in most countries of the Arab World, it is the opposite view that prevails. Perhaps it is not an exaggeration to state that proportionately more "palaces" were built in the Arab World than anywhere else: palaces of comfort and palaces of industrialisation. Undue emphasis has been given to industrialisation to the point where we neglected other sectors, agriculture for example. Someone else feeds us now and someone else clothes, transports even entertains us too. We need modern states that search for remedies not sedatives, that will stop searching for immutable labels to stick on changing realities. We need governments that stick to the realities and that will take us out of this limbo between reason and unreason.

Sandinistas seen gaining despite U.S. pressure

By Christopher Hanson
 Reuter

WASHINGTON — American-backed Nicaraguan rebels are beset with troubles which experts believe will impede a U.S. drive to keep the leftist Nicaraguan government off balance and weaken a warning signal sent to Managua by continual U.S. military exercises in neighbouring Honduras.

The exercises, which began in 1982, are proceeding apace. More than 300 paratroopers from the vaunted 82nd airborne division dropped into Honduras last week for a two-week combat training exercise that increased the U.S. force total in that country temporarily to 3,700.

"Obviously, we're down here as an arm of U.S. foreign policy (and) our first mission is deterrence," army Colonel Skip Fesmire told reporters flown from Washington to observe the drop in a test of the Pentagon's special media "war pool."

A second plank of the Reagan administration's anti-Sandinista platform involves the roughly 17,000 U.S.-funded Nicaraguan "contra" rebel fighters.

U.S. officials say they hope

contra attacks will encourage a popular uprising against the Sandinistas, who they claim are Marxist-Leninists bent upon exporting revolution through Latin America with Cuban and Soviet backing.

But factional infighting is threatening to tear the contra movement apart and destroy its potential effectiveness, contra sympathisers say.

Adolfo Calero, one of three directors of the U.S.-backed rebel alliance United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO), resigned on Tuesday from the troubled organisation under pressure from rival leaders and the Reagan administration.

Calero, who heads the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)-trained Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) and is considered the most conservative member of the three-member UNO directorate, also called for the integration of FDN's 12,000-man army into a single rebel fighting force.

A Calero supporter depicted the move as a major concession to moderate elements of UNO represented by the group's other two directors, Arturo Cruz and Alfonso Robelo, both former

officials in Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

Other rebel officials said, however, that Calero would still be able to play a major role in controlling the U.S.-backed guerrilla movement, which has been torn by fierce political infighting since its creation in 1985.

Rebel officials agreed that Calero's departure from UNO's leadership falls far short of the moderates' demands for sweeping reforms that would broaden the base of UNO and bring it under greater civilian control.

"This may not be completely satisfactory to Cruz, Robelo and their supporters," a senior rebel official said.

"Unless this rift is resolved over the next few months, I'd be most fearful about the future of the contras," contra supporter Georges Fauriol of Washington's Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) told Reuters.

Analysts said the contra rift could jeopardise future congressional funding for the rebels. Only after rebel leaders reorganised last spring, stating that infighting had ended, did Congress back a \$100 million aid package.

The White House did not make prospects for future contra aid any brighter by admitting last

November that profits from secret arms sales to Iran had been improperly diverted to the rebels.

The contras' military performance has also drawn fire from leading U.S. military men.

Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, told reporters last week that the American people would stop backing the rebels unless they scored some kind of major military success soon and beated their rivals.

The Washington Post reported last Friday that some key contra leaders, acknowledging they had made little military headway, were backing a ceasefire plan proposed by Costa Rica that would leave the Sandinistas in power.

The paper quoted administration sources who said they would consider such an option, even though the United States has been demanding for years that Managua establish a democratic government and provide for free elections and a free press.

Four Central American presidents have agreed to invite Nicaragua to discuss the new peace proposal after excluding the Sandinista government from a summit on Monday in San Jose where they modified a preliminary draft of the plan.

LETTERS

'Good Arabs, bad Arabs'

To the Editor:

WHILE flying God's own sky between Amman and Washington D.C. on Feb. 14, 1987, I read in your issue of the same date Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber's symphony of admonition, entitled "Rich Arabs, poor Arabs."

Time being of the essence Dr. Abu Jaber writes as if being chased by a demon. Dr. Abu Jaber is definitely not a latter day convert to the fact that the worse crime is not to tell the truth.

With the presence I wish to buttress Dr. Abu Jaber version of the truth. To wit, there is nothing of the source as 'rich Arabs, poor Arabs.' Arabs are either good Arabs or bad Arabs. Consequently there are good rich Arabs and bad rich Arabs. There are as well good poor Arabs and bad poor Arabs.

Hence, when and if Dr. Abu Jaber could finally come forth with a socio-economic alchemy which would render the rich Arabs to become more rich and less bad, and the bad poor Arabs to become less bad and in the process less poor, and the good poor Arabs to remain good, there poverty notwithstanding, there and then, millions upon millions of hapless Arabs will take to trod the path of eternal gratitude seeking his door to pay homage.

Words of commendation of this daring and outspoken soul will never do him justice. Suffice to say that Dr. Abu Jaber is on the right track.

Ludwig W. Tamari
 U.S.

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Handwritten signature: *Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber*



During the winter of 1982-83, tents were used as classrooms at Ein Al Hilweh camp after several schools were damaged during the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.



This school in Sidon, Lebanon has been occupied by 150 displaced families from the Tyre area since early November.

Palestinians in Lebanon: Another year of schooling in jeopardy

UNRWA feature

FOR some young Palestine refugees in Lebanon, their schooling this year could be in jeopardy. In the Tyre area, 17 UNRWA schools were closed from the end of September — four months lost; 10 schools in Sidon have been occupied by displaced refugees since November — three months lost; and 22 schools at Sbatila, Sabra and Burj Al Barajneh in Beirut have been closed since November — almost three months lost so far. (Nine schools in the Tyre area reopened early this month but with very low attendance).

Over the past decade, many children have had long gaps in their schooling because classrooms have been demolished in fighting or were occupied by displaced refugees. And other schools have had to be closed because of the dangerous security situation.

In the 1984-85 school year, for example, out of 182 scheduled school days, 47 were lost in Tyre, 54 in Sidon and 57 in Beirut. UNRWA tries to overcome these gaps by extending the school year or starting the next year earlier. But the gaps leave their mark in both performance and desire to continue schooling. UNRWA statistics show that average exam results drop in times of particular turmoil from 84 per cent for example in 1981 to 77 per cent in 1982, the year of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. It took another two years to get back to the pre-invasion level.

Hopes tarnished

Palestine refugees have always seen education as their only

hope, but even this hope has been tarnished in Lebanon. Because of this desire for education, UNRWA's focus over the years since it began operations in 1950 has changed from relief to education. In 1987 education will take almost two-thirds of the agency's \$200 million budget.

There are some bright spots this school year in Lebanon. The 23 agency schools in the Tripoli and Beka'a Valley areas have been operating normally for most of the 1986-87 school year. Another casualty of war in Lebanon is the Sibilin Training Centre near Sidon, Lebanon. It has been effectively closed for the past three years. Since 1982 it has been looted twice, damaged several times during fighting and occupied by local militias. Today Sibilin is back in UNRWA's hands but the current security situation in Lebanon prevents it from reopening.

Every year the agency plans to reopen Sibilin, depending on security. This year is no exception with agency officials budgeting for reopening in September with about 450 trainees. The centre has been repaired and equipment is being replaced, so the opening depends mainly on the general security situation in the area.

Meanwhile, UNRWA is operating some courses at other locations. Four training courses (business and office practice, public health inspectors, radio and TV mechanics and architectural draftsman) with 108 students are being conducted at one of UNRWA's schools in Sidon. In April 1987, courses in business and office practice and for public health inspectors will begin in Tripoli.

A new course (refrigeration and airconditioning) is planned

for the 1987-88 school year when Sibilin reopens.

In addition, 22 young Palestine refugees from Lebanon are attending UNRWA training centres in Jordan and the Syrian

Arah Republic and 20 girls have been admitted to the Svelte International School and the YWCA in Beirut under UNRWA sponsorship. UNRWA also offers university

scholarships to eligible refugees. This year 33 students in Lebanon have applied and their cases are being reviewed by the education department. As well, eight young men and women have continuing university scholarships from UNRWA.

One fortunate youngster is finishing his high school education at the United World College of the Adriatic near Trieste, Italy. UWC has traditionally offered places for Palestine refugee students at its colleges but the students still have to meet UWC's stringent entrance requirements.

School grants provided

UNRWA provides small school grants for children wishing to continue their education after the 10 years of elementary and junior secondary schooling the agency offers in Lebanon. And these grants are available to children who live in areas with no UNRWA schools in order to help them attend government or private schools. Last year, 7,463 students received grants.

Recently, many more requests for grants have been coming into the education department. This is especially the case in Sidon where 10 UNRWA schools are occupied by displaced refugees and children want to enter local non-UNRWA schools.

Of the 82 UNRWA schools in Lebanon, today only 40 are open. The school year began with 28,319 students registered compared with 45,188 in 1981. The reasons for this include fear of sending children to school and displacement. In addition, some refugees fled in 1982 to other areas of the Middle East and have not returned.

unemployment and steep inflation in Lebanon. They just don't have the money.

Coping with events

With thousands of refugees displaced during the past four months, UNRWA's education authorities have had to redeploy staff and open new class sections in schools that are operating. In the past, the agency has had to set up new schools to deal with a shifting refugee population and in Sidon in the winter of 1982-83, tents were used as classrooms.

On the campus of Sibilin Training Centre, UNRWA has been running a school for refugees living in the Wadi Zeineh area north of Sidon. An extra 2,000 displaced refugees have recently moved into the area and 500 children are requesting admission to the school which already has an enrolment of 861 students. This means a need for more classes and more teachers.

Fighting and the displacement of refugees have also meant crowding in some schools. When Mar Elias school (Beirut) was still open in late 1986, there was standing room only in some classes with an influx of students into an already overcrowded school. Now because of security problems, the school is closed.

Current situation

Of the 82 UNRWA schools in Lebanon, today only 40 are open. The school year began with 28,319 students registered compared with 45,188 in 1981. The reasons for this include fear of sending children to school and displacement. In addition, some refugees fled in 1982 to other areas of the Middle East and have not returned.



Desks are piled up and out of the way to make room for thousands of displaced refugee families in UNRWA schools.

15 years on Bangladesh still can't feed its people

By Robert Mahoney
Reuters

DHAKA — When ex-beatle George Harrison organised the "concert for Bangladesh" 15 years ago to raise aid money, the newly-independent country was ravaged by war, poverty, hunger and mismanagement.

Since then the soldiers have returned to barracks but little else has changed for the millions of illiterate peasants who go hungry in what is potentially one of South Asia's richest agricultural countries.

Worldwide publicity of the bloody birth of Bangladesh after the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war brought a flood of Western aid dollars which continue to pour into Dhaka.

Yet Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, remains among the world's poorest, most overcrowded agrarian nations and looks like being so for some time, according to aid officials and economists interviewed by Reuters.

"The rural population is hardly any better off now than before independence," said an aid worker who asked not to be named. "That situation does not look changing significantly in the medium term."

This is despite a flow of aid of more than \$1 billion a year since 1972.

International donors pledged \$1.85 billion for the year ending June 30 to help develop an economy in which per capita gross national product is just \$130 a year, half that of neighbouring India.

More than 80 per cent of the 105 million people crammed into the country along the Ganges and Brahmaputra deltas — an area smaller than the U.S. state of Wisconsin — get less than the United Nations-designated daily intake of food.

Half the rural population is landless and up to 40 per cent of the 35-million labour force is out

of regular work.

One of the most successful exports is labour. Up to half a million men working in the Middle East are expected to send home \$650 million in 1986-87, the government estimates.

A growing population, low food output, natural disasters, economic mismanagement, political instability, violence and corruption, are cited by politicians and economists in discussing the nation's distress.

Its brief history has seen two presidents assassinated, several coups, widespread election rigging and violence, a tribal rebellion, drought, cyclones, floods and tidal waves.

Successive governments have adopted policies advocated by the foreign donors who provide half of all development outlays but policies often fail to get implemented at grass roots level.

President Hossein Mohammad Ershad said last month half the foreign aid had been wasted.

"Implementation of development projects took a very long time and as a result benefits in real terms came down 50 per cent," he told development planners.

Individual donor countries and bodies such as the World Bank monitor their own projects closely. But government officials say several large public sector projects incurred huge cost overruns because of "leakage" — a bureaucratic euphemism for theft and corruption.

They also point to the near-collapse of the domestic banking system due to non-repayment of loans.

Government planners told Reuters that public banks and lending agencies were owed about 24 billion taka (\$800 million) in loans on which neither interest nor capital were being repaid. Much of the money was paid in return for government support, they said.

Ershad, who came to power in

a bloodless 1982 military coup, launched a crackdown on bad debtors last year but bankers said they had so far seen no appreciable increase in loan recoveries.

Ershad held parliamentary and presidential elections last year which the opposition said were rigged. He was elected civilian president by a landslide majority in October in polls boycotted by most opposition parties.

He has continued the tilt in favour of private enterprise which has reduced public ownership of the economy down from a high of 90 per cent in mid-1970s to about 60 per cent.

Only a quarter of farm land is irrigated and use of fertilisers and high-yield rice and wheat strains is low.

The government has said it expects to be self-sufficient in foodgrain by 1990 but aid officials doubt this.

The growth in food output is only slightly above the 2.5 per cent growth in population. Aid

officials said the 105 million population — half the people are under 45 years old — would double in less than 25 years.

Some officials predict that despite a foreign-aided family planning programme growth will not stabilise before the population reaches 340 million.

"There is just no way this country can feed or house that many people," said one official.

Growth in Bangladesh's fledgling industries has been slow because of low world demand for its jute and garments. The price of jute, used in sackings and carpet backing, plunged from \$600 a tonne in 1985 to \$220 this year.

They said the current account deficit is expected to widen in 1986-87 to \$1.14 billion from \$1.07 billion last year.

Finance Minister Mohammad Syedur Rahman says GDP growth will be about five per cent this year, similar to last year, but private economists put growth at just above three per cent.

Repair gene might help women outlive men

By Malcolm Ritter
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Recent studies suggest that one reason women tend to outlive men may be their bodies do better repair work on the chemical strands carrying genes, a scientist says.

Researchers have tracked a gene or genes involved in repairing DNA, the strandlike chemical that makes up gene-bearing chromosomes, to the sex-related X chromosome, said researcher David W.E. Smith.

Women inherit two X chromosomes, while men have one X and one Y. The female's double dose of the repair genes, which oversee production of an enzyme called DNA polymerase alpha, may mean they can better repair damaged DNA, Smith said.

"This is an absolutely vital gene involved in DNA repair, which does seem to have something to do with longevity, and DNA replication, which is neces-

sary for cell division, which is another thing that runs out of steam with age," he said.

"If males and females differ with respect to amount of enzyme, this could be a contribution to the gender gap," said Smith, a Northwestern University pathology professor who is studying the longevity difference at the National Institute of Aging.

Smith was interviewed on the tracking, known as gene-mapping, before speaking at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He said the gene-mapping was done by a group led by David Korn at Stanford University and a second group in Japan.

Other scientists are sceptical about relating the mapping to longevity differences, saying serious questions have to be answered before a case could be made for the idea.

According to the National Cen-

tre for Health Statistics, a baby born in 1983 could expect to live 71 years if male and 78.1 years if female.

Part of the gap is due to behavioural differences, Smith said. Males are involved in more accidents, homicides and suicides, he said, and drinking and smoking among men contribute substantially.

Hormonal differences between sexes also influence bodily processes that in turn affect longevity, such as blood cholesterol levels, he said.

As for a role of the DNA repair genes, "we don't know whether that's important or not... it's a speculation that requires a lot of work to denote its contribution," he said.

Dr. Richard Setlow, a noted researcher on DNA repair and aging, said he will remain a skeptic until more experiments are done because "there's no firm evidence that more effective

DNA repair increases the lifespan of humans."

The best suggestive evidence comes from experiments showing that longer-lived species of animals show more DNA repair than shorter-lived species, said Setlow, senior biophysicist at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. But several mechanisms repair DNA, and it is not clear how many of them show the relationship, he said.

Thomas Johnson, assistant professor of molecular genetics at the University of California at Irvine, said Smith's speculation "doesn't make sense" because one of the X chromosomes in women is almost entirely inactive.

Smith replied that the enzyme could still be involved if the double dose of genes gives women two chances to have properly functioning polymerase alpha genes, while men have only one chance.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Feb. 21, 1987

8:30 Music Box

9:30 Dad's Army
We Know Our Onions

10:20 Feature Film
Acceptable Risks

Starring:
Cicely Tyson
Brian Dennehy
Kenneth McMillan

For more than 30 years, Citychem, a huge chemical plant, has brought prosperity to the town of Oakridge. The citizens of Oakridge know that toxic chemicals are manufactured at the plant, but nobody asks too many questions.

Some whisper that the plant is a potential timebomb, a tragedy waiting to happen. But nobody in power wants to jeopardize prosperity. In an age of high technology, "acceptable risks" are part of the price of success.

Sun. — Feb. 22, 1987

8:30 Who's The Boss

9:30 Doc. — The Day the Universe Changed.
Credit where it's due

We live today in a world of mass production and vast energy resources. The programme takes us back to 18th century England to investigate the roots of the industrial revolution, which was fuelled in equal measure by bumper harvests, a religious sect, and the birth of modern capitalism. As the spiral of production intensifies, we observe the transformations wrought by industrialisation: urbanisation, the factory system, the birth of an industrial working class, and exploitation of the planet.

10:20 Magnum

Mon. — Feb. 23, 1987

8:30 Executive Stress

Another telephone line has been installed in the house, Donald is "borrowing" an address and all tracks are covered. However, domestic bliss is disturbed when Caroline finds her husband's ethics at work are not as high as she'd expect.

9:30 Rage of Angels: The Story Cont.

10:20 Fresno

The Canes and the Kensingtons still battle in a life-and-death struggle for supremacy of the powerful raisin cartel.

Tue. — Feb. 24, 1987

8:30 No Place Like Home
You'll Never Walk Alone

Arthur's hope of enjoying some

peace and quiet, now that his children are grown up, are dashed by his family's refusal to leave him alone.

9:00 Varieties

10:20 The Fourth Arm

Wed. — Feb. 25, 1987

8:30 Three's Company
Friends and Lovers

9:30 Doc. — The Africans
Global Africa

Events in Africa today make front-page news around the world. But although the continent's importance in global politics continues to grow, Africa itself holds very little sway in international affairs. In the final programme of the series Ali Mazrui looks forward to Africa's new relations with the outside world and asks how things will change in the future.

10:20 Best Seller
Captain and the Kings

Thurs. — Feb. 26, 1987

8:30 Paul Daniels Magic Show

9:10 Remington Steele
Diced Steele

10:20 Feature Film
Heat and Dust

Starring:
Julie Christie

An ex-BBC researcher, Anne, has inherited letters written by her great-aunt Olivia from India in the 20s and is fascinated by their revelation of an exotic, somewhat scandalous past. She decides to go to India herself where she becomes inextricably drawn into retracing her aunt's past.

Fri. — Feb. 27, 1987

8:30 Throb
The Concert

Sandy and her partner concluded an agreement with a famous singer specialising in adolescents songs, who was insisted to sing without the huge serpent which, used to accompany him when singing.

9:10 Falcon Crest
Going Once, Going Twice

10:20 Paradise Postponed

Leslie Titmuss campaigns for the 1979 election, Charlotte tries unsuccessfully to prevent Nicky from being sent away to school. Lady Grace's jewellery box is stolen. Charlotte begins an affair with Gary Kitson. She is killed whilst taking part in a CND demonstration.

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Al Hajri fights off Swedish challenge to win Qatar rally

Jordan's Karam takes 5th; Prince Abdullah retires

Special from Doha

DOHA — The opening round of this year's Middle East Championship fell to the old master, Saeed Al Hajri from Qatar. On his home round of the series, Al Hajri led from the first stage in his Porsche 911 and was only challenged by Sweden's Lars Erik Torph driving one of the team Toyota Middle East Celica Turbos.

Punctures were the biggest problem for the 33 strong field, with every car experiencing at least one. For Torph, it ruined his chances of winning after closing the gap on Al Hajri to just one second. The Swedish driver pushed hard but could not make an impression of Al Hajri's lead; then his Toyota broke under the strain with a failed differential halfway through the second leg on Friday.

That left Al Hajri to cruise home as winner of his first rally after returning to the championship he has dominated so often in the past.

Reigning Middle East champion, Mohammed Ibn Sulayem from Dubai suffered a disastrous rally, with his Audi Quattro first breaking a gearbox, then a wheel falling off in a special stage. He continued on Friday only to fight suspension damage and a failed starter motor — on reflection his fourth placed result was amazing considering his handicaps.

Another unexpected result came from Ahmed Khalifa from Dubai driving the second team Toyota Celica on his first interna-

tional rally. His speed and skill was one of the rally highlights.

A good result too for Finland's Lasse Lampi in his Group A Mitsubishi Starion. After overcoming slight suspension damage on the first day, he was driving flat out into third place beating many Group B cars.



His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah shakes hands with Arab World no. 1 driver Saeed Al Hajri of Qatar before the start of the Qatar International Rally. Al Hajri went on to win the rally which finished on Friday evening. Prince Abdullah was forced to retire on the penultimate stage with engine failure.

The Royal Jordanian team made its debut outside Jordan and gave fifth place to Nabil Karam in his Opel Manta 400. After His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah suffered seven punctures on the first day dropping him to 15th place overnight on Thursday. He pushed hard on the final leg to claw his way back into the top 10 finisher but on the penultimate stage retired with engine failure on his Opel Manta.

Other retirements included Lebanon's Michel Saleh who made it only to the third stage when his Opel's engine overheated, and Abdullah Omar from Dubai who broke his Opel's rear axle when in sixth place.

WBA president favours stripping Hagler's title

CARACAS (R) — World Boxing Association (WBA) President Gilberto Mendoza said he has endorsed a championship committee recommendation to strip Marvin Hagler of his middleweight title.

He told Reuters that a final decision will be taken by the WBA executive committee early next week.

The association's championship committee, headed by Alberto Aleman, last week recommended Hagler be stripped of his title for failing to defend his crown last December against their top contender — Britain's Herol Graham.

WBA advisor Elias Cordova said that the executive committee members were scattered throughout the world and were telephoning their votes to Mendoza in Venezuela.

"I have endorsed the recommendation and expect to receive the votes of the 25 international members of the executive committee by Monday or Tuesday next week," Mendoza said.

Hagler, who also holds the World Boxing Council (WBC) middleweight title is scheduled to fight fellow American Sugar Ray

Leonard in April. The Leonard fight has been sanctioned by the WBC.

Hagler's co-manager Pat Petronelli, in Palm Springs, California, where the champion is training for the Leonard fight, said he was surprised by the WBA action.

The Leonard bout "is the fight that the boxing people really want to see," he said.

Asked if the WBA decision would disrupt Hagler's training, Petronelli, without hesitation, answered, "Not a bit."

Mendoza said Hagler has 30 days to appeal if the executive committee votes to strip him of the WBA title.

But Morris Goldings, Hagler's attorney, last week received a temporary restraining order from Plymouth County court in Brockton, Massachusetts, that stops the WBA from taking away the middleweight champion's title until further order of the court.

The WBA moved the case to U.S. federal court in Boston, but the injunction remains in effect, Goldings said.

"The action of the WBA in that vote, we believe, has absolutely no effect," he added.

Athletes ready for European indoor tourney

LIEVIN, France (R) — East German long jumper Helke Drechsler, Bulgarian hurdler Yordanka Donkova and British sprinter Linford Christie head a strong entry list for the European Indoor Athletics Championships this weekend.

Most of Europe's top athletes, who also include Bulgaria's world high jump record holder Stefka Kostadinova, will be using the two-day meeting in this northern French town as a prelude to the inaugural World Championships in Indianapolis next month.

Christie, European outdoor champion over 100 metres last year, has recovered from a bout of chicken pox to defend the indoor 200 metres title he won in Madrid last year.

But he faces tough competition from 1985 champion Stefano Tilli of Italy, the world indoor record holder, as well as Frenchman Bruno Marie-Rose, who clocked a very swift 20.57 here two weeks ago, and Soviet European outdoor champion Vladimir Krylov.

Colin Jackson and his fellow-Briton Jonathan Ridgeon look likely to spur each other on to dethrone Spain's Javier Moracho in the 60 metres hurdles.

And West German Carlo Thraenhardt should have an absorbing duel in the men's high jump with Sweden's Patrik Sjoberg. Each has beaten the world indoor record in the past few weeks. Sjoberg raising it to its present 2.41 metres.

In the absence of world champion Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union and convalescent French Olympic champion Pierre Quinon, the pole vault title could go to in-form Frenchman Thierry Vigneron for the third time, though Bulgarian defending champion Atanas Tarev and lone Soviet Rodion Gataulin will have other ideas.

Spain's Jose-Luis Gonzalez, three times victor over 1,500 metres, moves up to 3,000.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

S. African parents censure board

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — Parents at an all-white Pretoria high school overwhelmingly approved a motion of no confidence in the school's governing board, which refused to allow a black athlete to compete in a track meet last weekend. More than 900 parents, in a packed auditorium at Menlo Park High School, voted 755-155 to demand the board's resignation within a week. Outside the hall, several dozen members of white supremacist Afrikaner Resistance Movement — which opposes all forms of integration — waved banners bearing Swastika-like emblems and sang Afrikaner ballads. Police kept them from entering the hall.

Bahrain wins Arab golf tourney

BAHRAIN (R) — Hosts Bahrain won the eighth Arab Golf Championship, carding an eight-stroke lead over runners-up Morocco. After Thursday's final round over the new Sakhr Course, Bahrain's three-man squad had an aggregate of 679 compared to the Moroccan's 687. Morocco's Abdul Rahim Zoweisha won the individual event with 222 points followed by countryman, Mohammed Al Mutayer. Bahrain's Ali Misbah Khaled came third with 226 points. Participants in the championship, besides Bahrain and Morocco, were Libya, Algeria, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar and Lebanon.

One-legged wrestler is unbeaten

FORT BRANCH, Indiana (AP) — Terry Kissel is one of 22 unbeaten wrestlers going into this week's state high school championships. But he's the only one with one leg. Kissel, who wrestles at 126 pounds (57 kilograms) and has a record this season of 28-0 after making it to the regional semifinals last year, lost his right leg in a farm accident when he was 3. "It helped that I was so young when I got hurt," the Gibson Southern High School senior said. "If it had happened now I might have given up." The 17-year-old has an artificial leg but prefers crutches, which have helped him develop exceptional strength in his arms and leg. The power in his leg helps his balance during takedowns.

Hungarians win world chess qualifier

WARSAW (R) — Hungarian grandmaster Josef Pinter and Gyula Sax won the first qualifying tournament here for the next Chess World Championships, the official PAP news agency said. The winner of the series of qualifying tournaments will play against the reigning champion Gary Kasparov of Soviet Union. Players compete in two groups of twelve and first and second place in each group qualify for the next tournament.

Britain's Hardy wins boxing title

ST. HELENS, England (AP) — Billy Hardy won the British bantamweight boxing title by stopping the holder, Ray Gilbody, inside three explosive rounds at the St. Helens Leisure Centre. Gilbody, fighting in front of his hometown crowd, was down four times in the first two rounds and about to hit the canvas a fifth time early in the third round when referee Adrian Morgan stopped the fight. The outgoing champion was hampered by a shoulder injury he suffered at the beginning of the first round and by the start of the third, was unable to throw any decisive punches.

S. Korea plans for Olympic hosts

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean officials are seeking the participation of 21 cities that hosted past Olympic Games in ceremonies for relaying the flame for the 1988 Seoul Olympics. The Seoul Olympic Organising Committee said Thursday. Committee officials said their plans call for cultural representatives of former host cities to stage on-day arts festivals in each of the major South Korean cities through which the Olympic torch will pass. The proposal is expected to be approved after further consultations with the International Olympic Committee and other international organisations, they said.

China trounces Switzerland, Soviets upset U.S. in table tennis tourney

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Seeded teams in men's league events, including host India, overcame their rivals to enter top 16 teams in the second stage of the 39th World Table Tennis Championships here.

Top-seeded China trounced Switzerland 5-0 in its last group A engagement but not without excitement as the Swiss proved to be tough customers.

Thierry Muller and Stefan Renold put up a brave display, forcing the world champions to work hard for every point. Using well-timed backhand drives, Muller caused trouble for Jian Jialing, the reigning world singles champion. But Muller could not control the ball consistently and lost 21-14, 21-17.

Renold often deceived his opponent Teng Yi with his service. After losing the first game at 21-15, he was level 10-10 before

Teng pushed ahead to win 21-13. The Soviet Union upset the United States 5-2 to secure a position in the top 16. England, Austria and West Germany also climbed to the second stage.

South Korea, which upset China in the Seoul Asian Games, sailed into the second stage with a smooth 5-0 win over Wales. The star-studded South Korean team has won all its Group J matches without dropping a game.

Second-seeded Sweden routed Bulgaria 5-0 in their concluding Group B league event. Sweden, which earlier beat Syria and Indonesia by identical margins, had little difficulty in disposing of the Bulgarians, winning all their matches in straight games.

The Bulgarians had no answer to the fine back hand jab and top spin of their rivals. Sweden rested Erik Lindh Friday and played former European champion Michael Appelgren.

Polish men, ranked third in the tournament, blanked Pakistan 5-0 but not without a gritty fight by Arif Khan.

Leconte among seeds upset in California

INDIAN WELLS, California (AP) — Henri Leconte, Joakim Nystrom and Mikael Pernfors were all upset victims in third-round action of the \$435,000 Pilot Pen Classic men's tennis tournament at the Grand Champions Resort.

Meanwhile, top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden, second-seeded Boris Becker of West Germany, third-seeded Yannick Noah of France, fourth-seeded Mats Wilander of Sweden and seventh-seeded Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia all advanced to the quarterfinals on Thursday.

The fifth-seeded Leconte, of France, lost to fellow countryman Thierry Tulasne, who is seeded 12th, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3; the sixth-seeded Nystrom, of Sweden, was upset by Jakob Hlasek of Czechoslovakia 6-4, 6-4, and the eighth-seeded Pernfors, of Sweden, was eliminated by 10th-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain 7-6, 6-0.

Edberg topped Todd Witsken 7-5, 6-4 and Becker overwhelmed Scott Davis 6-1, 6-2.

Noah defeated Tarik Benhabiles of Algeria 6-3, 6-4. Wilander rallied for a 3-6, 6-0, 6-4 triumph over Milan Strehar of Czechoslovakia, and Mecir topped ninth-seeded Kent Carlsson of Sweden, 7-6, 3-2, retired. Carlsson had to withdraw because of a sprained left knee.

India's Gavaskar aims to reach 10,000 test runs

JAIPUR, India (R) — India's veteran opening batsman and former captain Sunil Gavaskar will resume his bid to complete 10,000 runs in test cricket in front of Pakistan President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq here Saturday. Gavaskar, who pulled out of the Indian team for the second test against Pakistan in Calcutta earlier this month, needs only 82 runs to reach the landmark.

He could achieve his ambition in the presence of the Pakistan president who is clearly unperturbed by the recent tension between the two countries. His visit is sure to be a major diversion at the third test.

Pakistan, like India, has announced a squad of 14 for a match in which it hopes to translate its victories in the two one-day "internationals" into test triumph.

Its touring squad — the 14 have been picked from a pool of 19 touring players — has been enlarged following the arrival of left-arm spinner Iqbal Qasim and recalled 39-year-old batsman Younis Ahmed.

European soccer round-up

Lineker leads England to 4-2 victory over Spain

LONDON (AP) — English striker Gary Lineker reminded the Spanish soccer public why Barcelona paid £2.75 million (\$4.12 million) for his services, by scoring four goals in a match ... against Spain.

The Barcelona striker scored all England's goals in a 4-2 victory over Spain in an exhibition match in Madrid Wednesday.

On a busy night of soccer action involving the British and Irish countries, Scotland went down 0-1 at home to the Irish Republic in a European Championship qualifying match in Glasgow.

In further exhibition games, Wales and the Soviet Union tied 0-0 in Swansea and Israel and Northern Ireland shared a 1-1 tie in Tel Aviv.

Lineker, who top-scored in last summer's World Cup finals in Mexico, netted in the 23rd, 26th, 46th and 56th minutes after Emilio Butragueno had fired Spain ahead in the 14th. Ramon Vazquez added a second for Spain 14 minutes from time.

The Spanish line-up included six players from Real Madrid against whom Lineker scored three goals in a league match earlier this month.

Lineker's haul took his total to 18 in 21 appearances for England and inflicted Spain's second defeat in 17 games under Miguel Munoz.

A seventh minute goal by Ireland's midfielder, Mark Lawrenson, surprised Scotland at Hampden Park. But the result meant the Scots had failed to score for the third time in four group games.

Lineker's Barcelona club-mate, Mark Hughes, was one of three top-rated strikers on show at Swansea's Vetch field. But Hughes, Liverpool's Juventus-bound Ian Rush and the Soviet Union's Igor Belanov — the European player of the year — all failed to find the net.

In Tel Aviv, Zion Mariti scored a late leveller for Israel after Steve Penney had fired Northern Ireland ahead.

American NBA roundup

Boston holds off late Houston charge to win

NEW YORK (AP) — The Houston Rockets got into late foul trouble and it cost them a game against the defending NBA champions.

In a rematch of last year's playoff finals, the Boston Celtics defeated Houston 99-92.

The Celtics used a 10-2 spurt to take the lead for good midway in the third quarter, although the Rockets made a charge early in the fourth period. But Akem Olajuwon picked up four quick fouls in the final period and the Celtics held on.

Boston's Robert Parrish scored 30 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, while Kevin McHale added 21 points for the Celtics and Larry Bird finished with 16 after suffering a cut near his right eye with 8:27 left in the game.

Steve Harris scored a career-high 22 points to lead the Rockets and Jim Petersen had 20 points, tying his season high. Olajuwon had 15 points and 11 rebounds.

In other NBA games, it was

Detroit 117, Seattle 105; New York 120, Cleveland 105; Golden State 110, New Jersey 106; Portland 124, Phoenix 108.

Pistons 117, Sonics 105

Adrian Dantley and Isiah Thomas scored 28 points apiece to lead Detroit over Seattle, handing the visiting supersonics their eighth consecutive loss.

Dale Ellis led Seattle with 31 points, while Xavier McDaniel added 29.

Knicks 120, Cavaliers 105

Gerald Williams scored 29 points and rookie Kenny Walker added 20 to help New York snap a four-game losing streak.

Warriors 110, Nets 106

Joe Barry Carroll scored 22 points and Chris Mullin added 20 as Golden State defeated New Jersey to snap an eight-game road losing streak.

Trail Blazers 124, Suns 108

Kiki Vandeweghe had 35 points and Clyde Drexler added 30 to lead Portland over Phoenix.

Gompert upsets Lloyd

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP) — Chris Evert Lloyd's comeback to tournament tennis ended quickly as Kate Gompert of the United States upset the world's second-ranked player 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the third round of the \$250,000 women's tournament of Florida.

In the other Thursday night match, second-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany needed only 34 minutes to beat Sara Gomer of England 6-0, 6-0, allowing 19 points in the 12 games.

The tournament was Lloyd's first since a five-month layoff forced by a knee injury. After getting a first-round bye, the top-seeded Lloyd had trouble subduing Elena Reinach of South Africa 6-4, 6-2 in a second round Tuesday.

Gompert, who had beaten 11th seed Carling Bassett of Canada in the first round, seemed to wear down Lloyd through the last two sets.

"I think Kate played a great match, maybe the match of her life," Lloyd said. "Especially in the third set, she hit some great angle shots and didn't miss many."

Gompert, named the tour's most improved player in 1986, said she felt mixed emotions after the victory.

"I felt guilty, almost, in beating Chris," said the 24-year-old left-hander. "I always looked up to her."

Lloyd played down the fact that this was her first tournament since losing in the U.S. Open

semis to Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia last September.

"Coming into the tournament I didn't expect much, and I didn't do much," she quipped. "Maybe if this had been a semifinal or final I'd have been more match tough. I guess five months is a long time. Even though I felt 100 per cent out there, I may be going through some apprehension."

Gompert, ranked 33rd in the world, bounced back from her first set loss to lead 4-1 in the second set. Evert Lloyd rallied to tie it at 4-4, but then she began to make uncharacteristic mistakes on important points.

In another upset Thursday afternoon, Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico beat eighth-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Joining Fernandez, Gompert and Graf in the quarterfinals were no. 3 Pam Shriver of the United States, no. 4 Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, no. 5 Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany, no. 6 Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina and no. 7 Bettina Bunge of Monaco.

Shriver defeated 15-year-old Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States, 6-2, 6-1, in 53 minutes.

Sukova advanced by rallying to eliminate Patty Fendick of the United States, 3-6, 6-0, 7-5.

Kohde-Kilsch overcame errors that cost her the second set to eliminate Helen Kolesi of Canada 6-1, 4-6, 6-2. She swept the last three games of the final set.

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NOTICE TO FILIPINOS RESIDING IN JORDAN

On Wednesday, 25 February, the Philippine Embassy will have an open house from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to celebrate the first anniversary of the people-power revolution in the Philippines and the assumption into office of President Corason C. Aquino.

On the evening of the same day there will be a get-together at the residence of Ambassador Juan V. Saez at Khirbet Sweilayah, between the 6th and 7th Circles.

Members of the Filipino community and their friends are cordially invited. Please ring 645161 and 643421.

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Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573
SPRING FEVER
Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
LEGAL EAGLES
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
HITCHER
Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Friday.

One sterling	1.55285/95	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3320/30	Canadian dollar
	1.8302/12	West German marks
	2.0675/85	Dutch guilders
	1.5467/77	Swiss francs
	37.85/90	Belgian francs
	6.0925/75	French francs
	1302/1303	Italian lire
	153.75/85	Japanese yen
	6.5000/50	Swedish crowns
	9.9875/9925	Norwegian crowns
	6.9050/9100	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	398.00/398.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities stood close to record levels in late trading which extended the opening gains, but business was fairly quiet as the account drew to a close, dealers said.

Prices were marked higher initially, after Thursday's sharp sell-off, mainly on hopes of an early cut in domestic interest rates. Friday afternoon's slightly higher opening on Wall Street also fuelled the firmer trend.

At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 26.5 at 1,956.6, against a record intra-day high of 1,977.4 Wednesday. Dealers said it looked set to top the record close of 1,952.0 set Wednesday. Dealers said most traders in the equity market were very bullish for a near-term cut in 11 per cent clearing bank base lending rates, despite recent action by the Bank of England indicating that it did not wish to see rates fall just yet.

Among FTSE 100 share constituent stocks Glaxo lead the way throughout the day to show a net gain of 69p at 1,524 with the shares buoyed by U.S. demand and ahead of a brokers' presentation next week.

Aquino launches agricultural credit fund

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Corason Aquino launched a \$35 million agricultural credit fund Thursday and appealed to private bankers to help farmers earn more money as her government tries to contain a Marxist rebellion in the countryside.

"We know that the banking system, especially the large commercial banks, are very liquid," Mrs. Aquino said in a speech at ceremonies launching the fund. "Yet as businessmen, bankers are wary of the risks inherent in agriculture."

Mrs. Aquino said the fund is intended primarily as a government guarantee for loans from private banks to Filipino farmers, whose credit requirements this year are estimated at about \$3 billion.

By operating the comprehensive agricultural credit fund, the government hopes private banks will be more willing to lend money to farmers, and thus help "promote a more equitable distribution of wealth and income," she said.

Mrs. Aquino did not refer directly to the country's 18-year insurgency but members of her cabinet had said earlier that the fund was part of her government's land reform programme and other efforts to reduce popular support for communist rebels in the countryside.

Fighting has resumed in the conflict since peace talks collapsed last month and a 60-day ceasefire lapsed on Feb. 8. "Genuine" land reform is among the chief demands of the rebels. "I strongly believe that this step we are taking now to help our small farmers is a sure and right move toward our dream of economic progress for our country," she said. "This is the right path that will also serve as the basis to address the needs of our farmers and the whole Filipino nation."

Trade and Industry Minister Paul Channon told parliament that it was hoped that the new company could be floated on the stock market within two or three years.

The deal, which would involve the closure of two Leyland trucks British plants, included the Freight Rover division which makes light commercial vans, Mr. Channon said.

He said DAF would have a 60-per-cent stake in the new venture leaving Rover Group with the remaining 40 per cent.

The deal is the latest move in efforts by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government to slim down the Rover Group — once the Giant British Leyland Company — and bring it back to profitability. Despite having 18 per cent of the domestic market Leyland trucks has been losing £1 million (\$1.5 million) a week.

Opposition Labour Party industry spokesman, Mr. John Smith, told Mr. Channon: "What we are witnessing today is effective surrender of control of British truck and van industry — and that's something no government should be proud of."

Other opposition politicians, and trade union leaders have voiced fears that the deal with threatened, Mr. Jerome Udoji, president of the 1,300-member association, told a news briefing.

He said industry's overall support for a far-reaching national structural adjustment programme introduced last year remained unshaken. But without urgent action on its application, the programmes objective to force self-sufficiency in black Africa's biggest economy would be defeated.

"A decision has got to be made whether industries are wanted or not. This decision must be made as quickly as possible for the patient might die whilst the experts are consulting," he said.

The key complaint from industry concerns import duties paid on finished goods and those on raw materials needed by Nigeria's heavily import-dependent factories. The gap is now so narrow that commerce prefers to ship abroad rather than buy at home.

"We are importing unemployment along with the goods. Eventually we will become the dustbin and dumping ground of cheap European and Asian goods. The net result is a return to the former colonial days of trade economy," he said.

Official figures say that three million Nigerians are unemployed.

Mr. Udoji also attacked government policy to reduce the naira in circulation by over 50 per cent with the aim of controlling inflation. This had caused closures and the previously unknown phenomenon in Nigeria of bankruptcies, he said.

Industry's third major complaint arose from the effective devaluation of the naira.

Japan cuts key interest rate to record low

TOKYO (R) — Japan slashed interest rates Friday to try to halt the rise of the yen but economists doubted the cut would be enough to convince currency speculators or the United States the dollar should fall no further.

They said the half-point reduction in Japan's key interest rate would do little or nothing to boost the country's economy.

Washington has made action by Japan and West Germany to increase domestic demand and imports a prerequisite for its agreement on measures to stop the dollar's slide.

Friday's interest rate cut brought the Bank of Japan's key discount rate to its lowest level at 2.5 per cent.

Central Bank Governor Satoshi Sumita told a press conference he hoped the move would stabilise the yen and boost the sagging Japanese economy.

Economists saw the move as mainly a token gesture by Japan to lure the United States to negotiate on exchange rate stability.

"The rate cut is one of the deals with the United States," said Mr. Hidehiro Iwaki, analyst at Nomura Research, the research arm of Japan's largest stockbroker.

"The discount rate cut will only boost the economy by a mere 0.1 per cent," added Mr. Keijiro Kishi, economist at Mitsubishi Research Institute.

The Japanese economy has been so depressed by the strong yen that cuts in interest rates no longer make any difference, he said. The yen's 40 per cent rise

against the dollar over the last 18 months has hit Japanese exporters hard by forcing them to raise prices and lose sales in the lucrative U.S. market.

The announcement of an interest rate cut was made on the eve of this weekend's meeting in Paris of finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Five (G-5) — Britain, France, Japan, the United States and West Germany — and the Group of Seven (G-7), which also includes Canada and Italy.

Mr. Sumita said he will tell other major nations in Paris that the rate cut will greatly contribute to the expansion of the country's domestic demand.

The governor said he expects the seven to agree on the need for currency stability this weekend. He added that he did not expect any agreement on currency reference zones — upper and lower

limits for the dollar, yen and mark.

Economists and currency dealers said they are not as confident as Mr. Sumita that the Paris meetings will produce the measures needed to stop the dollar's fall.

The United States has argued that there are only two principal ways to reduce its huge trade deficit — through a lower dollar, which would increase its competitiveness on world markets, or through increased domestic demand in West Germany and Japan.

Neither Bonn nor Tokyo seem willing to take the measures Washington deems necessary. Japanese finance ministry sources said Tokyo would tell its fellow G-5 members it was doing all it could to boost domestic demand.

The Japanese finance ministry is resisting U.S. pressure to stimulate the economy through tax cuts or increased government spending, arguing that its first priority is to restrain the growth of the government's already mammoth debt.

Economists said the central bank is growing increasingly concerned that Japan is relying too heavily on interest rate policy to boost domestic demand.

Mr. Sumita said Friday that it has become more important to use fiscal policy to expand domestic demand within the framework of the government's efforts to rehabilitate state finances.

He also said that interest rate policy has come very close to the limit of its effectiveness after Friday's half point rate reduction.

Economists took this as a sign the central bank will wait some time before cutting the rate again, if ever.

B.P. suffers 49% drop in net income

LONDON (Agencies) — British Petroleum (B.P.), Britain's biggest oil concern, saw its net income fall by 49 per cent last year, against 1985 as tumbling oil prices, in a glutted market cut deep into earnings from exploration and production.

B.P. which is almost one-third owned by the British government, said in a statement Thursday that its net income for the year fell by £817 million (\$1.25 billion) in 1986 from £1.60 billion (\$2.45 billion) the year before.

The group said the trading environment this year would continue to be difficult, with the balance of supply and demand in world oil markets still uncertain.

Britain is the major producer of North Sea oil ahead of Norway. Last year, the price of oil touched a low of around \$9 a barrel in July after levels above \$30 in late 1985. Crude oil now fetches around \$17 a barrel.

B.P. also said that earnings for the year were reduced by £318 million (\$487 million) because the company made write-downs and asset sales at its U.S. subsidiary Standard Oil, which had also been hard hit by last year's oil price fall.

B.P. chairman Sir Peter Walters told the news conference that the group would support attempts to keep crude oil prices at around \$18 a barrel, which he described as "not a bad price".

Meanwhile, an energy department report showed that Britain's total petroleum production reached 126.9 million tonnes in 1986, including 5.8 million tonnes of natural gas liquids.

The report showed an increase of 0.7 million tonnes, or 14 per cent, over the 1985 level.

In the fourth quarter of last year, the report noted, petroleum production totalled 30.8 million tonnes, involving 1.6 million tonnes of natural gas liquids.

Total energy consumption, including oil, in 1986 was 77.1 million tonnes, a reduction of 0.6 million tonnes, or 0.8 per cent less than in the previous year.

Egypt wins politically-palatable debt package

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has agreed to a package of economic reforms which the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will support with \$250 to \$300 million in balance of payments support, diplomats said Thursday.

They said the two sides had agreed on a draft letter of intent outlining the measures which sources close to the talks said would not cause President Hosni Mubarak any political problems.

Under the agreement Egypt will have to increase prices on a range of subsidised consumer goods, a subject sensitive in Egypt in view of riots 10 years

ago which forced the late president Anwar Sadat to cancel price increases.

The diplomats said the draft agreement would be submitted to the IMF's executive board for approval, possibly in April or May.

It terms call for streamlining Egypt's multi-tiered exchange rate system, more liberalisation of domestic interest rates and stronger measures to reduce the budget deficit.

The diplomats said the agreement with the IMF would pave the way for rescheduling Egypt's \$38.6 billion foreign debt.

Egypt allocates more than \$2 billion of its budget annually to subsidise basic goods and commodities for a fast-growing population of 51 million people.

Prices of petroleum products are kept low — ranging between four and 17 per cent of comparable world prices — through a

system of indirect subsidies.

Egypt sought IMF help after a sharp fall in its foreign exchange earnings, mainly from oil exports, coincided with a sharp rise in debt repayments.

Fuel price increases were included in the draft agreement, they said.

As part of the package, the diplomats said World Bank loans of up to \$800 million would be granted to three sectors of the economy: Agriculture, industry and energy.

Egypt will also undertake to free agricultural prices gradually and encourage more participation by the private sector in investment projects, they said.

Leyland Trucks, DAF to form new joint venture

LONDON (R) — The British government Thursday announced that the loss-making Leyland Trucks division of Britain's state-owned Rover Group and the Dutch truck makers DAF would combine to form a new joint venture.

Trade and Industry Minister Paul Channon told parliament that it was hoped that the new company could be floated on the stock market within two or three years.

The deal, which would involve the closure of two Leyland trucks British plants, included the Freight Rover division which makes light commercial vans, Mr. Channon said.

He said DAF would have a 60-per-cent stake in the new venture leaving Rover Group with the remaining 40 per cent.

The deal is the latest move in efforts by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government to slim down the Rover Group — once the Giant British Leyland Company — and bring it back to profitability. Despite having 18 per cent of the domestic market Leyland trucks has been losing £1 million (\$1.5 million) a week.

Opposition Labour Party industry spokesman, Mr. John Smith, told Mr. Channon: "What we are witnessing today is effective surrender of control of British truck and van industry — and that's something no government should be proud of."

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YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 21, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you need to take care of your health. Use much care on the highway and in other motion. Use your Saturday to catch up on errands and correspondence.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You want to get into new activities, but this is not the day for progress. Screen new partners wisely.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may feel that others are taking advantage of you, but this may not actually be the case.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) One who keeps harping on some point should be avoided. Save yourself some heartache this way.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your Saturday duties seem more difficult than usual. Don't argue with co-workers.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into the recreational activities that you like, but make a little preparation first so they go well for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Nothing seems to work out as you please at home. Don't be forceful in trying to gain your way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your friends may be too busy with their own affairs, so don't ask assistance from them at this time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are apt to act too hastily where a financial matter is concerned, so postpone and get results later.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Do not rush after what you desire. Instead, make wise plans for the best possible results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get your time scheduled so that you can handle your duties wisely. Don't be forceful with your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are eager to be your gregarious self during the day, but be more discriminating for best results.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Keep busy at personal activities and avoid outside meanderings that could bring you trouble.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be apt to speak without much thought and get into trouble thusly, so teach this one the art of meditation. Early schooling is important here. Be sure to add foreign languages since much travel is possible. Make sure the diet is good.

THE Daily Crossword by Elizabeth Arthur

ACROSS

- Hello in Hindi
- Voice notes
- Mushroom
- Lesser anem
- Tennis score
- Kind of arch
- Military
- student
- brainchild
- Small thing
- Cave man?
- Sci. type
- Coward
- System
- Eye or can
- Boredom
- Breathing
- sound
- Tender
- mental
- contract
- Crept
- Poor Stephen
- Medieval
- guild
- "Now — the
- title..."
- Patricia of
- "Hud"
- Nerve
- Battleplace of
- H.C. Anderson
- Kind of case
- Toodle-so
- Parrots
- Fruit tincture?
- Gravy or
- stems
- 3c. — a fire
- Wily chalice
- Greels
- Isle of
- Indonesia
- Rousseau
- End of mob
- or job
- Thrashes
- Gathering of
- a kind

DOWN

- Bones
- Vault
- Ye — Shoppe
- Command to
- a cartine
- Strang into
- hermy
- Similar
- Alpine warbler
- At any time
- Spice up
- Funny lady
- Nimble
- Russ. czar
- Apper
- Scandinavian
- of thumb
- Musical
- group: abor.
- Kind of
- rubber
- Verve
- Medium person?
- Cozy home
- Baiting word
- Arabian gulf
- The Seven —
- A Gardner
- Gulf suborder
- Snaphot
- Turkish
- Impetuous
- Dirk
- Mutation
- Antony
- 4c. — for
- words
- Barrows and
- Vigoda
- 57 — Kazan
- 58 — My Friend
- 59 — Leave port
- 60 — Cultivate
- 61 — Weaver's read

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Aquino handpicks senate hopefuls for Filipino polls

MANILA (R) — President Corazon Aquino picked a mixture of political oldtimers and neophytes and an in-law Friday as candidates for the senate in the first election under her year-old government.

The 24-member government slate includes seven cabinet ministers, a woman diplomat, two former university presidents, two Muslim leaders, and several human rights lawyers.

Ten have never stood for election in any post.

Political analysts said the senate candidacies cleared the way for Mrs. Aquino to carry out a major cabinet revamp because election laws require candidates to relinquish government positions.

Mr. Aquino drafted Teofisto Guingona, his chief negotiator in unsuccessful peace talks with Communist rebels, and her brother-in-law Agapito "Butz" Aquino who is negotiating a separate peace with Muslim separatists.

Two cabinet ministers picked, Good Government Commissioner Jovito Salonga and National Affairs Secretary Aquilino Pimentel, have been tipped as possible presidential aspirants.

Mrs. Aquino does not belong to a political party and her choices were recommended by the three major political groups comprising the coalition government.

The May 11 elections of a 24-member senate and a 240-member lower house will transfer Mrs. Aquino's lawmaking powers to a two-house congress.

Mrs. Aquino has exercised law-making power since assuming the presidency in February 1986 after Ferdinand Marcos was toppled in a civilian-backed military revolt.

Marcos declared martial law and abolished the legislature in 1972. His 1981 parliament was widely seen as a rubber stamp.

and its proclamation of Marcos as winner of a fraud-marred presidential election in February last year helped trigger the revolt that ousted him.

Other cabinet members on Mrs. Aquino's list were Neptali Gonzales, justice Alberto Romulo, budget Hecson Alvarez, agrarian reform Rene Saguisag, presidential counsel and Victor Ziga of general services.

It also included two women, Foreign Undersecretary Leticia Shahani, sister of Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos, and local Muslim leader Nina Rasul.

Mrs. Aquino also selected two men she fired from her cabinet — Augusto Sanchez, removed as labour minister after the military accused him of leftist sympathies, and Ernesto Maceda, who was sacked as natural resources minister amid corruption charges.

Meanwhile Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fidel Ramos Friday dismissed rumours of a military-backed coup planned to coincide with Wednesday's first anniversary of the "people power" revolution which deposed Ferdinand Marcos.

Gen. Ramos told reporters popular opinion would make another coup very difficult, if not impossible.

"They've lost their chance already," he said.

The armed forces chief said Filipinos had had enough of coup talk and would act against another attempt.

"The people are set to enjoy their new democracy and their new constitution," he added.

Disident elements in the 150,000-strong regular forces have

been involved with three attempts during the past 12 months — all of which have failed.

Gen. Ramos said the military investigated all coup suggestions, including a recent flood in the country's rumour-prone media.

"The probability is something else," he declared.

"The chances of any coup, if it is ever attempted at all, at this time are much less. They are greatly diminished compared to the attempts during the past several months."

At least seven soldiers and five Communist rebels were killed Friday in clashes in southern and northern Philippines, the military said.

Brigadier-General Manuel Avila told reporters seven soldiers and two guerrillas were killed when the Communist New People's Army (NPA) ambushed a patrol about 320 kilometres north of Manila. Brig. Avila, northern Philippines military commander, said 11 soldiers were wounded.

In Davao City on Mindanao Island, troops killed three NPA members in a brief gunbattle, Lieutenant-Colonel Franco Calida said. The three were believed to belong to a NPA "sparrow unit" liquidation squad.

Mrs. Aquino Friday named her ambassador to the United States, Emmanuel Pelaez, to take over government peace talks with Muslim rebel leaders in the south of the country, the Philippine News Agency (PNA) reported.

Mr. Pelaez is a native of Mindanao where the Muslim minority has been fighting for greater autonomy from Manila.

He replaces National Affairs Secretary Aquilino Pimentel who is in resign from the cabinet to campaign in the May senate elections.

Bush forms presidential exploratory committee

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President George Bush is a step closer to entering the 1988 presidential race and his campaign manager says Mr. Bush is ready to "audition for the job of the presidency."

Mr. Bush formed a presidential campaign committee Thursday, a step that makes him a candidate in the technical view of the federal election commission.

But it's short of the vice president standing up and declaring he is a candidate. He'll do that sometime around Sept. 1.

So far, only former Delaware Gov. Pete Du Pont has gone all the way and declared his candidacy. He'll be joined soon by former Secretary of State Alexander Haig Jr. and representative Jack Kemp of New York.

Also waiting in the wings are Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas, the Rev. Pat Robertson, former Senator Republican leader Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennessee and Donald Rumsfeld, a former Illinois congressman and defence secretary.

Lee Atwater, a former White House political aide, was named Bush campaign manager and he said the vice president "is going to be going around the country and he's going to start auditioning, in effect, for Americans."

Mr. Atwater added that "the way you audition for the job of the presidency is you go out and give your position on the issues to the people, you talk about your vision of the future, you talk about what you stand for."

Asked if Mr. Bush could do that without seeming to differ with President Ronald Reagan, Mr. Atwater replied, "absolutely." He'll say, here's what we've done, here are the good things in the Reagan administration. Now, we're moving into a new era, we're moving to the 1990s, we're moving toward the next century, here's what I believe we need to do."

France says Pacific nuclear tests essential

GENEVA (R) — France has vowed to press on with atomic tests in the South Pacific, saying they are essential to maintaining its independent nuclear deterrent.

Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond told a 40-nation disarmament conference Thursday that stopping the tests would not represent progress towards nuclear disarmament.

France has long been under fire from Australia and New Zealand for conducting tests at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific. Relations with New Zealand were severely strained in 1985 when French saboteurs blew up the Greenpeace environmental protest ship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour.

Mr. Raimond said French nuclear tests did not amount to one tenth of those conducted by the United States and the Soviet Union.

Echoing the U.S. position on the issue, he said a ban on nuclear test blasts was a long-term goal, to be achieved only after global nuclear disarmament takes place.

"France sees no reason why it should be drawn into planning the obsolescence of its nuclear deterrent," he told delegates.

Nuclear tests are a prominent issue at the conference, attended by all five nuclear weapon states, the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China.

Australia would encourage the island countries to develop common views, attitudes and approaches to international issues, including strategic and defence matters.

"We do this, not as a major power seeking to impose its views on smaller, less powerful nations, but rather as a friend, counsellor and equal partner to our regional neighbours," he said.

Australia, the United States and other Western nations have expressed concern over recent Soviet moves to expand their influence in the region through fishing deals with financially-troubled island states.

Mr. Beazley did not refer to the Soviet Union, but said there was "the potential risk that disputes between the major powers, and influences which could be harmful to our longer term strategic interests, may be introduced to the region."

Mr. Beazley said that opposition members should not be allowed to criticise President Ershad or elections held by his government.

Meanwhile, separatist tribal guerrillas killed at least six Muslim settlers Thursday in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in southern Bangladesh, officials said Friday.

They said they believed the guerrillas of the outlawed Shanti Bahini (peace force) crossed into Bangladesh from the eastern Indian state of Tripura with help from Indian border guards.

Bangladesh accuses India of sheltering, arming and training the rebels, who took up arms in 1975 when talks failed over their demand for autonomy for the 14,200 square kilometres hill tracts bordering India and Burma.

Cuomo drops out of U.S. presidential race

NEW YORK (R) — Old-style liberal Mario Cuomo has unexpectedly dropped out of the race to succeed President Reagan in 1988, removing a major threat to Gary Hart's chances of securing the Democratic Party nomination.

The New York state governor announced his decision not to seek his party's nomination Thursday on a radio call-in talk show. Aides said they had not known he planned to make the announcement.

"I choose this moment to make my position clear: I will not be a candidate," said Mr. Cuomo, 54, an old-style Democratic liberal who has been widely regarded as a leading contender for the Democratic nomination.

"In my opinion the Democratic Party offers a number of presidential candidates who can prove themselves capable of leading this nation toward a more sane, a more progressive and a more humane future. I will not add my name to that number," Mr. Cuomo said.

Kathleen Meehan, a Cuomo spokeswoman, told Reuters the governor's aides did not know he planned to announce his withdrawal from the race in this unusual way.

"But based on what the governor has said in the past, I would not say we were surprised," she added.

The announcement bolstered Gary Hart's chances of securing

the nomination. Mr. Cuomo was considered by most political analysts to pose a major threat to Mr. Hart, the former senator from Colorado who unsuccessfully sought his party's presidential nomination in 1984 and is now seen as the Democratic front-runner.

Mr. Cuomo's withdrawal was also hailed as a windfall by less well-known contenders.

"It's great news for a dark horse," said Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri, who plans to become the first Democrat to announce his candidacy formally on Monday.

"Without Cuomo in the race it will enable more attention to be paid to the lesser-known but younger members of the party," Mr. Gephardt said. "It demonstrates that the race is wide open."

Mr. Gephardt's sentiments were echoed in Phoenix by a spokesman for former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt, who plans to announce his candidacy on March 10.

Other possible candidates include Delaware Senator Joseph Biden and black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, who won the third largest block of presidential delegates in 1984.

Although Rev. Jackson has been running a solid third in most polls behind Hart and Cuomo, analysts said he had little hope of winning the nomination because he had drawn only limited support from white voters.

Haughey faces shaky start

DUBLIN (R) — New Irish leader Charles Haughey, who needs to take tough measures to salvage a debt-ridden economy, faced a shaky start in power on Friday with his minority government forced to rely on three independent members of parliament.

After Tuesday's close-run election, Mr. Haughey failed by just three seats to win an overall majority. Now he needs to woo the non-aligned before parliament meets on March 10 formally to elect a new prime minister.

The 61-year-old self-made mil-

lionaire, now at the helm for the third time, may at some stage have to pander to the independents over Northern Ireland and economic issues to ensure the country is not forced into another election within a year.

But Mr. Haughey is a masterful backroom negotiator who initially faces a fragmented opposition in parliament. In an optimistic statement Thursday night he said his Fianna Fail party "will now form a government which will, for a full term, implement a programme of national recovery."

U.S. lifts sanctions against Poland

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has lifted trade sanctions against Poland but said future U.S.-Polish ties depend on further moves towards national reconciliation by the military government in Warsaw.

The action was taken Thursday in response to liberalisation measures by the government of General Wojciech Jaruzelski and appeals by Solidarity union and church leaders in Poland and Polish-Americans in the United States.

Removal of the sanctions ended a bitter episode in U.S.-Polish relations which began with the crackdown against Solidarity in December 1981.

In a statement, Mr. Reagan noted the Polish government had lifted martial law in 1983 and thousands of political prisoners had been freed in a series of amnesties. The final amnesty was declared last September.

Mr. Reagan said Washington had made clear that improvement in U.S.-Polish ties would be possible only if Warsaw maintained the spirit of the amnesty and relied on a national dialogue and respect for human rights.

"We will be watching to see that further steps are taken toward national reconciliation in Poland, and that the progress made is not reversed," he said.

Restoration of favourable tariff treatment of Polish exports to the United States and the lifting of a ban against official credits and credit guarantees was not likely to have any immediate dramatic effect.

"There will be no manna from heaven flowing from this decision," a senior State Department official said.

During the suspension of so-called most favoured nation tariff status, Polish exports to the United States dwindled from \$427 million to about \$250 million last year.

The Polish government said the sanctions, which it termed illegal, had cost Poland \$15 billion, or almost half of its debt to the West of \$33.5 billion.

The September amnesty led to intensified U.S.-Polish contacts that culminated in a trip to Poland by Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead last month.

Leaders of Solidarity and the Roman Catholic Church told Mr. Whitehead they wanted the sanctions removed.

Mr. Reagan said Thursday the liberalisation process still had far to go.

Disposable camera introduced

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. photographic giant Eastman Kodak has introduced a cheap camera called the "Fling" which the photographer throws away after taking one roll of film. Japanese film manufacturer Fuji, which has made an aggressive push in the U.S. market in the past few years, was also expected to unveil a disposable camera. The Kodak camera will have a list price of \$6.95 and shoots a 24-exposure 110 Kodacolour film. It has a 25-millimetre lens, with a 1/120 shutter speed, which is in focus from one metre to infinity. The Kodak camera, which cannot be reused, costs about \$3 more than a roll of 110 film for use in a conventional camera. "It's an impulse-buying camera that people throw into their bags when they forget their own camera," said Dean Witter Reynolds analyst Eugene Glazer. "It's for those pictures that would never be taken otherwise."

Couple wins kissing contest

DALLAS (AP) — Pete and Maryellen Polichetti beat five other kissing couples and won a trip to Hawaii by smooching for 58 hours. "I think it helped that we were married and knew what each other could do," said Polichetti, 37. The great American kiss-off, which began at 8 p.m. Valentine's Day Feb. 14, ended when Dennis Saucedo and Stacy Thompson decided they'd had enough, said Barbara Hyer, a spokeswoman for the Harvey Hotel, the event's sponsor. Thompson and Saucedo, who have been dating for five months, will receive a free weekend at the hotel, Hyer said. Mrs. Polichetti said practice made the difference. "We're a kissing family," she said. "When the children leave, they kiss me goodbye and when they come home they kiss me hello."

Big cat captured after siege

NEW DELHI (R) — A leopard believed to have escaped from big game smugglers was re-captured in the heart of a Delhi suburb after a 36-hour siege of an air-conditioning plant. Hundreds of people watched as the fully-grown, 1.37 metre (4.5 foot)-long cat was drugged with tranquillizer darts and carried into a cage. Firemen, zoo officials and police with sub-machineguns surrounded the Indo-Danish Tani Room and Training Centre in Wazirpur when the leopard fled into the air-conditioning plant after being spotted snoozing in a courtyard. Workers had to cut away the blades of a 2.5 metre-high fan to drag the cat out of an air duct after a Delhi zoo ranger tranquillised it with three darts. Ranger C. Niman, told reporters: "It's my guess that he escaped from people involved in illegal trade in these animals." The leopard, bleeding from a head wound apparently suffered as it crawled in a narrow gap behind the fan, was taken to Delhi Zoo for treatment.

New York to give away 1m condoms

NEW YORK (AP) — The city health department will give away an additional 1 million condoms in the coming year to help fight AIDS, a department spokesman said Thursday. The department has been dispensing free condoms to family planning clinics, health fairs and community organisations for several years. An extra \$300,000 appropriation will allow the stepped-up effort, said Martin McGinley. He did not have figures on the number of condoms distributed in the past. The condoms will be dispensed at health clinics, family planning clinics and social service organisations where there are large numbers of intravenous drug users, McGinley said. He said the city has had 9,000 cases of AIDS since 1981, "and we only see the problem getting worse." The number of people infected with the AIDS virus in New York is estimated at half a million, he said. "The only way to prevent the spread of AIDS is educating the public on how to prevent getting AIDS and how not to engage in risk behaviour, and to promote the use of condoms, which will prevent the spread of the virus," he said.

15 million rats killed in campaign

BEIJING (AP) — An estimated 15 million rats have been killed in an extermination campaign which got under way in Peking last November, the official Xinhua News Agency said Friday. It said 1,150 tons of poison spread throughout the city wiped out about three-fourths of the capital's 20 million rats. Rat poison was distributed to every building in the city and placed throughout the city sewer system, the agency said. Rats have long infested China's cities, spreading disease and occasionally causing power outages by chewing through wires. They also are said to destroy more than 15 million tons of grain each year, as much as China imports annually.

Homosexuals to sue catholic cardinal

UTRECHT, Netherlands (R) — Dutch homosexuals are to sue the head of the Catholic Church in The Netherlands complaining that he insulted them in a radio interview. A lawyer acting for the Dutch Association for the Integration of Homosexuality said Cardinal Adrianus Simonis, Archbishop of Utrecht, had insulted homosexuals with insensitive and offensive comments. Cardinal Simonis told a Dutch radio interviewer he could understand Catholic landlords who turned away homosexual tenants because by doing so they were rejecting an incorrect lifestyle. He also said homosexuals threatened society by propagating their sexual preference as normal. The association wants the cardinal to retract his remarks, be fined if he repeats them, and place apologies in newspapers. It estimates there are between 500,000 and one million homosexuals out of a Dutch population of some 14.5 million. The lawyer for the cardinal, who is visiting the Pope at the Vatican and was not in court, said the media had distorted the remarks.

Queen sees AIDS research demonstration

LONDON (R) — Britain's Queen Elizabeth saw demonstrations of research into the killer disease AIDS on a visit to the Royal College of Pathologists. The queen and her husband Prince Philip saw demonstrations of screening for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), which kills by stripping the body of its natural defences, College President Professor Barbara Clayton said. The visit marked the 25th anniversary of the college, of which the queen is patron. The government has launched a £30 million (\$45 million) campaign to warn the public against AIDS, which includes sending warning leaflets to every home in the country. Some 686 people have contracted the disease in Britain and there have been 355 deaths. Up to 40,000 people are believed to be infected with the virus.

Muggers steal \$70,000 violin

NEW YORK (AP) — Muggers took a \$70,000 violin from a musician in the hallway of a Manhattan apartment building, police said. Mayuki Fukuhara, 33, was mugged at the apartment in Washington Heights in Upper West Side, said Sgt. Raymond O'Donnell, a police spokesman. Two men threatened Fukuhara, a member of the St. Luke's Orchestra, with a knife, then escaped with his R and G Rogerius violin as well as two bows, worth \$6,200, O'Donnell said.

Pig retires from police force

HANOVER, West Germany (AP) — "Luise," West Germany's drug-snuffing pig who rose to the status of a civil servant, is retiring to raise a family, a state official said. "Her handler, Werner Franke, is retiring from the police force and he's taking Luise along," said Lower Saxony Interior Ministry spokesman Volker Benke. Franke recently introduced the 3-year-old Luise to a male pig named "Lucas," and now she's expecting a litter, said Benke. The 131-kilogramme Luise, who joined the State Police Force as a drug and explosives sniffer in 1984, has appeared on several nationwide television programmes, with Franke.

Colombo ends offensive against rebels

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka said Friday it had successfully ended its largest offensive against Tamil rebels and begun moving in a fresh batch of 2,000 troops to replace combat-weary ones in re-captured areas.

"The offensive had been concluded and there have been no major incidents from Feb. 17," a government spokesman told Reuters.

"The offensive had been concluded because our objective — which is to show to the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) that no military option is open to them — has been established."

His statement came a day after President Jinnius Jayewardene proposed to resume peace talks with separatists who lost control of some areas during the two-week offensive in northern and eastern provinces.

Mr. Jayewardene offered to end military operations against

Tamil rebels and lift a seven-week-old fuel embargo on their stronghold Jaffna if the LTTE stopped fighting and negotiated to end the ethnic conflict.

The LTTE, most powerful of the main guerrilla groups seeking an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east of the island, said this week it would not lay down arms nor start peace talks.

Balasubramaniam Canagaratnam, LTTE deputy commander in Jaffna, has said the military would not be able to hold the recaptured areas because extra troops poured in for the offensive would have to be withdrawn eventually.

Military officials said at least 5,000 troops were used for the offensive.

The government spokesman said there was now a change-over of around 2,000 soldiers from "areas where there were hectic actions to less hectic places."

"We are resting those who were heavily involved in the fighting and replacing them with fresh troops. Soldiers can be affected psychologically if they fight for a long period," he added.

He said there has been a full in fighting for the past few days because the LTTE had been avoiding confrontations with soldiers whose patrols would capture them.

Asked whether the offensive would be resumed later, he said: "It all depends on whether mediatory efforts of India are stopped and if the LTTE continues to be intransigent."

India, where separatist leaders have been based since communal violence swept the island in July 1983, said it was willing to re-start the peace process if Sri Lanka ends the current military operations, lifts the fuel embargo and restores communications lines with Jaffna.

U.S. to make full payment of U.N. dues

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States, whose financial cuts brought the United Nations to the edge of bankruptcy last year, plans to return to paying its full U.N. dues this year, U.S. Ambassador Vernon Walters has said.

"We will probably go and request full-funding for this calendar year," Gen. Walters told a news conference at the U.N. mission to the United Nations. "We will acknowledge the debt of the past. This is my understanding of it."

Any return to full U.S. funding, however, would "predicated on the United Nations' going forward" with a package of financial and administrative reforms approved by the U.N. General Assembly in December, the ambassador said.

The U.S. Congress has placed certain limitations on U.N. funding — primarily a requirement that the General Assembly adopt a system of weighted voting on budgetary matters.

The structure is aimed at insuring that the largest U.N. contributors, with the United States at the forefront, have a proportionately large voice on how the U.N.'s money is spent.

In a move toward satisfying the congressional requirement, the 159-member assembly agreed to modify its traditional one-country, one-vote system in dealing with the U.N. budget. A primary role is being given to a 21-member special budgetary committee.

Its agreements are to be based on consensus.

The consensus rule would, in effect, give each of the 21 members a veto and thus more clout to the major donors represented on the committee.

Gen. Walters has said he expects this move to satisfy the congressional requirement.

Australia to help build common Pacific strategy

CANBERRA (R) — Australia will play a key role in building a common defence strategy among island nations in the South Pacific, the focus of recent Soviet attention, Defence Minister Kim Beazley told parliament Friday.

Mr. Beazley, in a major policy statement, said Australia was in close consultation with the United States and New Zealand in developing its regional security commitment.

Australia would encourage the island countries to develop common views, attitudes and approaches to international issues, including strategic and defence matters.

"We do this, not as a major power seeking to impose its views on smaller, less powerful nations, but rather as a friend, counsellor and equal partner to our regional neighbours," he said.

Australia, the United States and other Western nations have expressed concern over recent Soviet moves to expand their influence in the region through fishing deals with financially-troubled island states.

Mr. Beazley did not refer to the Soviet Union, but said there was "the potential risk that disputes between the major powers, and influences which could be harmful to our longer term strategic interests, may be introduced to the region."

Mr. Beazley said that opposition members should not be allowed to criticise President Ershad or elections held by his government.

Meanwhile, separatist tribal guerrillas killed at least six Muslim settlers Thursday in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in southern Bangladesh, officials said Friday.

They said they believed the guerrillas of the outlawed Shanti Bahini (peace force) crossed into Bangladesh from the eastern Indian state of Tripura with help from Indian border guards.

Bangladesh accuses India of sheltering, arming and training the rebels, who took up arms in 1975 when talks failed over their demand for autonomy for the 14,200 square kilometres hill tracts bordering India and Burma.

Sheikh Hasina told reporters

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND AMAR SHARIF
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MINE THOSE TRICKS

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A J 8 7
♥ Q J
♦ A 9 8 5 2
♣ K 4

WEST
♠ K 9 4 2
♥ 6 4
♦ 10 2
♣ 10 8 7 3 2

EAST
♠ Q 10 5 3
♥ 5 3 2
♦ Q J 7
♣ A Q J

SOUTH
♠ 6
♥ A K 10 9 8 7
♦ K 6 4
♣ 9 8 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Three of ♠

Here's an opportunity to demonstrate your technique. Cover the East-West hands and see how you would play a contract of four hearts after West leads a low club to his partner's jack and East returns a trump to dummy's queen. The auction was uneventful. Your jump to three hearts was invitational, not forcing. Partner's two heart honors were more than enough to raise to game — on this type of sequence, even two low

cards in your suit would have been sufficient.

The defenders have not been cooperative. As a result of West's lead and East's return, you are in danger of losing three club tricks and a diamond. If you continue by leading another club in the hope that whoever wins won't have a trump to return, you are the type who is disappointed when your two lottery tickets don't take the two top prizes.

Since the defenders have taken away your club ruff, you must find another way to take care of the third club. The obvious way to accomplish that is to dump it on a good diamond. So you must set up the diamond suit while you still have a trump on the table to control the third round of clubs.

After winning the trump return, duck a diamond immediately! Now if the suit follows the percentages and breaks 3-2, you contract is safe.

About the best the defenders can do is to win the diamond, cash their club winner and revert to trumps. You win and draw the rest of the trumps, and when both defenders follow to the king of diamonds, you claim. The ace of diamonds draws the last card in that suit